

Oxfordshire Guardian

Abingdon, Wantage and Faringdon

Thursday, May 17 - Wednesday, May 23, 2018

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Free

Weekly
leisure
guide for
in and
around
Oxford



Abbey Meadow
pool set for
June opening

➤ Page 3



Scouting popularity grows

➤ Page 9

United's year:
Review of Pep's
time in charge

➤ Sport



Campaigners win delay to railway bridge demolition

By George Welch

CAMPAIGNERS fighting against controversial plans to demolish Steventon's railway bridge 'live to fight another day' after the decision on the future of the Grade II listed structure was deferred.

Vale of White Horse District Council planners last week demanded more information on alternatives to knocking down the Victorian bridge.

Planning officers had recommended Network Rail's £10million electrification project, which would cause a 10-month road closure and cut off a main route into the south Oxfordshire village, for approval.

Despite this and Historic England, which originally had 'serious questions' about the necessity of demolition, changing its mind last month, councillors agreed they need more information on the possibility of lowering the track instead.

Steventon parish councillor Robert Green said: "We've bought more time to obtain the evidence Network Rail gave to Historic England which caused them to change their opinion in April.

"We live to fight another day in the hope that we can turn Historic England back to objecting."

Outgoing Vale leader Matthew Barber called for the outright refusal

of Network Rail's plans.

Afterwards, he said: "I was arguing for a refusal but it's not a bad outcome as it gives us more time for more information. The more I see from Network Rail the less convinced I am of the need [to demolish the bridge].

"I don't think more information can do any harm, although the end game has got to be a refusal when it comes back to committee in a month or so."

Network Rail representatives said the project is the only way to electrify the line after putting 'significant resources' into exploring alternatives.

The company claims a higher bridge would save train times between Cardiff and London by 25 seconds, something it says is an important part of its wider £1bn electrification project.

However, campaigners, who had their own independent report into alternatives produced, and councillors agreed 25 seconds is not a good enough reason for demolition.

Cllr Ben Mabbett said: "I do not believe it has been demonstrated that substantial public benefit would outweigh the decision [to demolish].

"The only impact would be people waiting 25 seconds at a platform, which is not of significant public benefit.

"We need a better look at other options that have yet to be looked at properly."



Building up
fundraising

Donation: The
Newton family with
Bellway sales advisor
Matt Hobbs

A FAMILY who are fundraising for a charity that helped them when their daughter was diagnosed with diabetes, has been given a donation by their housebuilder.

Sarah and John Newton from Grove have been raising funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation since Millie was diagnosed four years ago, aged just six.

Bellway gave the family £400 after they moved into the builder's Grove Meadows development.

The cash and sponsorship raised when John and brother-in-law Jon North ran the London Marathon was used towards raffle prizes for a fundraiser at Shush nightclub in Wantage on Friday.

Sarah thanked Bellway, saying:

"They have been so generous, the money will make such a difference to JDRF."

Sales and marketing director for Bellway Northern Home Counties Chris Edginton said:

"When we heard Millie's story, we were only too happy to help the family with their fundraising for this incredibly worthwhile charity."

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Turn left at Twitter Lane and you'll find LOL Alley

By George Welch

CONFUSION reigned on the streets of Oxford last week after the city's road signs had an inventive social media-themed makeover.

Residents were able to take a stroll down Hashtag Walk after a mysterious 'artist' placed a series of fake road signs around the city.

Oxford City Council has since removed the signs, first spotted last Tuesday, after saying they made the city difficult to navigate.

About 20 of them were discovered, with the signs seen displayed in streets and alleyways across the city.

The signs were all related to social media and were named the likes of Snapchat End, Facebook Row, Like Square, OMG Crescent and LOL Alley.

Other street names included Whatsapp Lane, Share Passage, Emoji Alley, Tweet Close, Unfollow Way, Facebook Way, Google Walk, Retweet Way, Twitter Lane and Delete Lane.

The 'artist' behind the makeshift signs goes by the name of 'A34'.

The anonymous individual previously claimed responsibility for adding fantasy locations Middle Earth, Gotham City and Narnia to road signs in Didcot earlier this year.

Oxfordshire County Council subsequently removed them because of their distracting nature.

Justifying his most recent work, A34 said he wanted to highlight the public's obsession with social media.



Creating an illusion: Just some of the signs which appeared around the city

He said: "Our relationship with social media is like a modern gothic tale. The social media companies sucking data from us like vampires drinking blood."

"But we have great collective power and can drive a stake through the heart of those corporations, should we fall out of favour with them."

He added: "I created my signs so that they appear fake upon close inspection; however, once they are photographed, they look three

dimensional and look unquestionably real. It's an illusion, in the same way that much of social media is an illusion."

A34 denied the prank was disruptive, saying: "I'm not destroying property, I'm not a vandal. I'm just merely somebody who is creating and helping people enjoy art."

However, the city council did not see the funny side and a spokesperson confirmed all the signs have been removed.

InBrief

Care workers deny all abuse charges

THREE care workers have denied abusing elderly patients they were looking after at a Wallingford care home.

The trio of women, who all worked at Winterbrook Nursing Home, pleaded not guilty to all 18 counts alleging neglect and ill treatment of six people.

Elizabeth Collins, 61, of Kynaston Road, Didcot, denied three counts of ill treatment/wilful neglect of an individual and six counts of breaching a care provider's duty of care resulting in ill treatment/neglect of an individual.

Mary Craddock, 59, of Egerton Road, Wallingford, denied five counts of ill treatment/wilful neglect of an individual.

Joan Lovell, 63, of St Leonard's Lane, Wallingford, denied two counts of ill treatment/wilful neglect of an individual and of breaching a care provider's duty of care resulting in ill treatment/neglect of an individual.

The charges relate to incidents between April 2015 and July 2017.

They all appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Friday. They were released on bail ahead of their trial at the same court on October 8.

Boy, 10, threatened

A 10-year-old boy was threatened with a knife in Banbury after he refused to hand over a phone.

He was with three other boys when he was approached by four older boys, aged 12 to 13, in Princess Diana Park on May 5.

One asked the 10-year-old to hand over his phone and pulled out a knife when he refused at around 8.30pm to 9pm. No one was injured.

Call police on 101 with information.

Murder trial hears evidence 'disposed of'

EVIDENCE in the case of an Oxford man who died of his injuries after being "savagely attacked" was deliberately disposed of to hinder police investigations.

Christopher Lemonius, 27, died on June 1 last year after sustaining more than 80 injuries following an attack in Jourdain Road, Blackbird Leys.

The personal belongings of six men who deny murder and four others who deny perverting the course of justice had never been found, prosecution barrister Stuart Trimmer QC told Oxford Crown Court.

The jury heard that Mr Lemonius was "savagely attacked" by a gang and that



Savagely attacked: Christopher Lemonius sustained more than 80 injuries leading to his death

clothing worn by the defendants, which was seen on a Premier

store's CCTV, could not be found.

Mr Trimmer said clothes and some mobile phones were disposed of in an active plan to pervert the course of justice.

CCTV coordinator Det Con Deborah North of Thames Valley Police said 81 CCTV exhibits had been seen by investigating officers.

Those charged with murder include: Yousef Koudoua, 27, of Balfour Road, Yasine Lamzini, 19, of Jourdain Road, Rashaun Stoute, 23, of Church Cowley Road, Connor Woodward, 24, of Haldene Road, Otman Lamzini, 24, of Jourdain Road and Carlos Spencer, 26, of Wynchub Road.

The trial continues.

Calls for councillor to resign over 'hateful' posts

AN Oxford City councillor who shared posts on Facebook comparing Israel to Nazi Germany and claiming cancer doesn't exist has resigned the Labour whip.

Cllr Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan shared "extremely disappointing" and "hateful" material on his personal Facebook page deemed "anti-gay and anti-Semitic" by rival councillors.

Cllr Lloyd-Shogbesan has deleted his Facebook profile and said he was "very sorry for any offence".

Posts shared on the Labour

councillor's page compared Israel to Nazi Germany, praised Colonel Gaddafi and alluded to same sex marriage as "endorsed perversion".

Last week, Cllr Lloyd-Shogbesan released a statement saying: "These posts do not reflect my views now and I apologise for having disseminated them and implicitly endorsed them."

The Labour party has been dogged by claims of anti-Semitism in recent months, with Labour's Oxford City Council leader Cllr Susan Brown calling the posts

"extremely disappointing".

She added: "Anti-Semitism or any form of discrimination has absolutely no place in the party."

Green Cllr Craig Simmons called for the Labour councillor's resignation over the "hateful" and "anti-gay and anti-Semitic" posts.

Oxford Conservative Association deputy chairman Mark Bhagwandin slammed the councillor's "suitability to represent Oxford's residents".

Cllr Lloyd-Shogbesan will keep his seat in Lye Valley but as an independent.

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Revamped pool to make a splash

By George Welch

GET your inflatables ready – a date has been set for the reopening of Abingdon's much-loved Abbey Meadow swimming pool.

The £1.3million major regeneration project began last September and Vale of White Horse District Council has announced the pool will open on June 16.

An official opening event will be held on the morning before opening to the public at 1pm.

Cllr Charlotte Dickson, cabinet member for leisure at the Vale, said: "It's so fantastic to see how this much-loved local pool has been transformed.

"We have made a significant investment to upgrade the outdoor pool and the wider Abbey Meadow area, and now these facilities are more enjoyable and accessible than ever.

"I'm sure there will be smiles on everybody's faces when we open again on June 16."

The new pool features a beach-style sloping walk-in area that provides easy access for young children and for visitors with disabilities. There is also a deep water area for more experienced swimmers.

The pool is now surrounded by a safe, non-slip rubber surface and the council has improved accessibility throughout the pool area and buildings.

The changing areas have also been fully refurbished to make the whole experience much more enjoyable for all visitors.

New energy saving lighting and equipment will also help make the pool more efficient to run.

Former Vale leader Matthew Barber it is "a great facility for Abingdon and the whole Vale".

The Vale announced the rebuilding of the town's outdoor pool after more than 700 people signed a petition calling for it to be renovated.

The council is appealing for people to send in old pictures of Abbey Meadow



New look: Abbey Meadow pool will reopen on June 16

pool which could feature in a special picture display at the re-opening event. A free swim is on offer for anybody who submits a picture used in the display.

Email communications@southandvale.gov.uk.

The new pool comes a year after a £615,000 revamp of the Abbey Meadow play park. The refurbished play area opened in June last year and included new equipment and pathways as well as the new toilet facilities.

Putting The Core at the centre of new shopping square

JUDGES rejected names including Squarey McSquare Face before christening Didcot's new town square.

The new Orchard Centre area, located between Costa and the restaurants at the end of the pedestrian walkway to the Broadway, will be known as The Core.

Judges from South Oxfordshire District Council and Hammerson, the Orchard Centre owners, chose the name because of the area's history as an apple orchard and its location



in the Science Vale.

The competition to name the new area, pictured, received more than

270 entries, with 14 suggesting The Core as the best name.

Some entries were tongue-in-cheek with Squarey McSquare Face featuring more than once.

Other popular suggestions were connected to mechanical and civil engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the power station and various historical names such as Duedcot and Dida.

Didcot mayor Jackie Billington said The Core is a 'fitting' name while Cllr

Bill Service said the name would be 'proudly displayed' in the town centre.

Cllr Service added: "We were delighted with the amount of imaginative and well thought through entries we received for this unique competition."

Candice Gray, a Southampton University student who lives in Culham, was selected at random from the 14 who nominated The Core. As the winner, she won a £100 gift voucher to spend at the Orchard Centre.

InBrief

Teenagers critical after car crash

TWO teenage boys are fighting for their lives after a serious crash near Wallingford.

Police said two 16-year-old boys are in a critical condition at John Radcliffe Hospital with 'life-threatening' head injuries, following Saturday's crash in Ewelme.

They were injured when a green Vauxhall Corsa smashed into a tree and hurtled to a stop in a field near Days Lane, near the Beggarsbush Hill junction, at about 11.10pm.

Police said two other 16-year-old boys suffered less serious injuries, including one who broke a collar bone.

All four people in the car were 16 years old but no arrests have been made, officers said.

Contact police on 101 quoting reference 1530 12/5 with information.

New council leader

THE next leader of Vale of White Horse District Council is Roger Cox, pictured.



He was to be formally elected by councillors at a meeting after we went to press yesterday (Wednesday).

The current deputy replaces Matthew Barber, who is taking a full-time job as Thames Valley's deputy police and crime commissioner.

Mr Cox, also a member for planning, represents Faringdon.

His deputy is corporate services member Ed Blagrove, a councillor for Kennington and Radley.



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Engine seizure forced pilot to crash land plane at air show

By George Welch

AN aircraft that crash-landed during an aerobatic display hurtled to the ground after its engine seized, according to air accident inspectors.

The trapped pilot was pulled from his Silence Twister light aircraft after crashing in front of stunned spectators at Abingdon Air and Country Show at around 1.30pm on May 14 last year.

In an Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) report, inspectors said the plane's engine operated normally until part way through the display when it seized 'due to a lack of lubrication and cooling'.

The 2013 plane was the following – or 'number two' – aircraft in the Twister aerobatics display.

"The first few minutes of the display proceeded without incident," the report said.

"However, the accident pilot became aware that [his] engine appeared to have been underperforming during the barrel rolls in the display sequence."

He asked the other pilot to reduce power because he was unable to maintain the correct formation position.

He could be heard on the radio saying "I am very low on energy here" followed a few seconds later by "I've

got a problem, I'm landing off this [manoeuvre]".

Deciding to discontinue the display, the pilot searched for potential landing options.

However, given his low height and proximity to the runway, and with no suitable options ahead or to the left (away from the crowd) due to wooded areas he decided to try and land on the runway.

At that point the engine was still turning but its power was reducing rapidly. The pilot believed the engine stopped about two or three seconds before the impact.

The aircraft struck the grass to the east of the runway, bounced and slid

to a halt.

The report said: "The forced landing resulted in impact sufficient to cause damage to the aircraft and serious injury to the pilot."

"Emergency responders were delayed by the absence of instructions explaining how the canopy could be opened."

"However, energy absorbing cushions and the safety cell construction of the cockpit contributed to the pilot's survival."

The pilot had 1,154 hours of flying experience, 259 of which were on type.

He was taken to hospital with serious injuries and has since recovered.

InBrief

Wristbands on sale

MORE than 3,500 wristbands are now on sale for Music in the Park.

Tickets for the popular Abingdon event, which includes live music and a fireworks display, are available via the town council website.

This year's event is on June 2 in Abbey Gardens, following the day long Fun in the Park.

Tickets £10 adults, £5 children (aged five to 17) and under fives free.

Book at tinyurl.com/yce9r8ch

GWP street name

A STREET on Great Western Park could be named after a construction worker who died suddenly.

Tom Gaughan was a groundwork supervisor responsible for the majority of the road and drainage network on the developing Didcot estate.

Following his death last month, developer Taylor Wimpey has asked to name one of the streets after him.

Didcot Town Council supported the proposal which will now go to South Oxfordshire District Council.

Dementia advice

HEMOCARE provider Bluebird Care will run a stall in Wallingford town square serving free cupcakes and offering advice on dementia care on Thursday, May 24.

The public can pop along between 10am to 1pm.

Funds will be raised for the Alzheimer's Society.

Honoured to represent town for third time

A THAME town councillor has been elected as the town's mayor for a third time.

Cllr Ann Midwinter was selected as mayor and Cllr Linda Emery, for the second year running, as deputy at a meeting last week.

Cllr Midwinter, who was also Thame mayor in 1990 and in 1991, replaces Cllr Tom Wyse in the role.

She said: "It is a great honour to represent Thame as mayor and I will do my best to do justice to that position."

"I am sure with a team of hardworking officers and councillors, we will overcome all challenges that we might face in the coming year."

Cllr Midwinter has chosen food donating charity Sharing Life Trust and Thame Youth Projects group as her charities for the year.

Meanwhile, Cllr Wyse presented the cheques for his charities of the year, totalling more than £1,000.

He presented Amy Spicer and John Hulett from the Red Kite Family Centre and Alison Champken-Woods from Thame & District Day Centre with a cheque of £5,874 each, tallying £11,748.

Cllr Wyse held many fundraising events including a cinema evening, music concert, golf day, bowls match and snooker competition.



New appointment: The mayor of Thame, Cllr Ann Midwinter, right, and deputy mayor, Cllr Linda Emery

Homes approved on former school land

A PLAN for 150 new homes on former King Alfred Academy land in Wantage has been approved.

Vale of White Horse District Council planning bosses agreed with officers that the homes on land east of Springfield Road should be given planning consent at a meeting last week.

A decision on proposals was deferred from March to address layout and parking concerns and arrange a site visit.

Amended plans have relocated

two proposed properties within the site to address their proximity to 36 Fyfield Close to the south of the scheme.

The revised plans also have 12 more visitor parking spaces, taking the total of spaces to 374.

This exceeds Oxfordshire County Council's maximum recommendation of 352 spaces, but the highways authority didn't object and there was a demand for more. Bernard Connolly, from the Wantage and Grove Campaign

Group, said the 'insufficient' parking would lead to vehicles parking on grass areas.

The homes were approved on condition of a speeding restriction and footpath link.

Developers are yet to consider a proposal by the town council to name the site Scholar's Field.

■ A plan for 458 homes on land east of Milton Hill, Abingdon was deferred after developers wanted to address concerns raised during consultation.

Thousands of homes on hold as SODC seeks to delay Local Plan

THE building of thousands of homes at contentious sites across South Oxfordshire is up in the air after the district council voted to reassess all possible options.

SODC wants to look at all 15 sites again after councillors backed a plan proposed by its cabinet last week.

The Local Plan was expected

to be submitted for independent assessment later this year but, under its new proposal, the council wants to submit it by January 2020.

Full story next week

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News



New nurse urges others to help Sobell

AN Oxford hospice has launched a recruitment drive after staff shortages forced it to close a third of its beds.

Sobell House says it is losing the battle with the demands of an ageing population and has closed six of its 18 beds due to a lack of nurses to look after patients.

The Headington hospice is in the middle of a major service expansion to meet the needs of its users – but it has not escaped the recruitment crisis across the health sector.

Ward sister Rochelle Lay said the immediate goal is to reopen the beds.

Longer term, she added: "With an ageing population, there are increasingly more people who will benefit from palliative care – we need to ensure there is a sufficient number of specialist staff who can provide that level

of complex care."

Hospice nurses look after patients in the day centre, on the ward, in home and in hospitals.

Nurse Elizabeth Mortimore, who joined Sobell in January following a career change from graphic design, urged more nurses to apply for positions at Sobell.

The 30-year-old, who looks after four patients each shift, said: "My office job didn't meet my need to care for people, so I retrained as a nurse and I have never looked back. The care delivered at Sobell House is unified by excellence.

"You are surrounded by people who are all passionate about the same thing – giving the best quality of care to patients approaching the end of their lives."

Visit www.sobellhouse.org/jobs to view nursing vacancies.



More help please: Sobell House nurse Elizabeth Mortimore has never looked back since retraining as a nurse



Car-azy parade

By George Welch

HUNDREDS of classic cars and bikes delighted revellers at Sunday's Wallingford Vehicle Rally and Parade.

Car buffs were dazzled – not only by the bright spring sun – but by the array of vehicles that meandered through the market town and parked up on the Kinocroft.

Ferraris, Lamborghinis, retro Minis – and even campervans and a boat – were ogled at by motoring

buffs in the 15th running of the rally.

Tickets for the parade sold out within an hour when they went on sale in February.

There were also 10 golden tickets which allowed the lucky winners to be in the parade just behind the leading vehicle carrying the mayor of Wallingford.

A statement on the group's Twitter page read afterwards: "We would like to thank everyone for supporting the event, donating so generously and helping out in so many ways."

Man invented two fake IDs to avoid a £100 fine

By Owen Hughes

A NORTH Oxfordshire man has been jailed for 12 months after his web of lies to get out of a speeding fine led to an Interpol investigation.

Christopher Henry, 52, of Church Road in Weston-on-the-Green near Bicester, was branded a 'fantasist' akin to 'Walter Mitty' by the judge during his sentencing at Winchester Crown Court on May 9.

Henry was driving his ex-wife's Freelander when he was caught speeding by a mobile camera van on the A343 in Hampshire in February 2016.

Rather than accept a £100 fine and three points, Henry embarked on an extraordinary trail of deceit.

He intercepted the speeding ticket in his ex-wife's post where

the Freelander was registered and completed the paperwork in her name claiming a French man, living at his address, was the driver and new owner.

Paperwork was sent to the fictional French national before being promptly returned to police claiming a man on the Isle of Lewis called George Harris was actually the driver.

Officers found no record of either man and contacted Interpol who found the name given was that of a wax museum in Paris and the address was a nearby hotel.

They then spoke to the Isle of Lewis post mistress who knew nothing of a Mr Harris, Mr Musee or Christopher Henry.

Investigations found fingerprints on the original paperwork belonging to Henry and not his ex-wife.

The Frenchman's name had also been given to Avon and Somerset Police when an Audi TT registered to Henry was caught speeding in August 2016.

Police retrieved voice recordings of him calling the AA out on two separate occasions when he broke down in the Freelander despite denying he had any access to the vehicle.

Henry also provided false dates of sale to DVLA, set up false email accounts and doctored emails from insurers in a bid to cover his tracks.

The jury took 40 minutes to find him guilty of all three counts of perverting the course of justice.

Henry appealed his £800 fine and six points but the case was upheld doubling the fine to £1,600 and he was disqualified for three months.

Two pensioners die after bank holiday crash

TWO pensioners have died following a bank holiday weekend crash.

Police are appealing for information after the accident on May 6 between a grey Peugeot 3008 and a silver Skoda Octavia.

A passenger in the Peugeot, Shirley Crapper, in her seventies from

Swindon, was treated by paramedics but died at the scene. The driver of the Skoda Octavia, also a woman in her seventies, has since died.

It is the second fatal crash on the A420 in the village of Tubney, near Marcham, in the space of two months.

A 51-year-old woman died on the

same stretch of road on March 22 after a lorry suffered a tyre blowout and lost control.

Officers have asked for witnesses and dash cam footage of the latest crash.

Contact police on 101 quoting reference 824 (06/05) with information.

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Treatment delays lead to deaths

By Owen Hughes

ABUSE and delays in treatment led to the deaths of one in eight people with learning difficulties an NHS England review has found.

Between July 1, 2016 and November 30, 2017, a total of 1,311 deaths were notified to the Learning Disability Mortality Review programme.

The review indicated that in 13 per cent of the 103 completed reviews of deaths of people with learning disabilities, the person's health had been adversely affected by the care provider.

Delays in care or treatment, gaps in service provision, organisational dysfunction, or neglect or abuse were recognised as contributing to the

deaths of 13 people according to the Learning Disability Mortality Review.

After the "preventable" death of Oxford teenager Connor Sparrowhawk in 2013, and the death of Teresa Colvin, from Hampshire, Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust admitted breaching health and safety law and was fined £2million.

Connor, known as Laughing Boy,

was 18 years old when he suffered an epileptic seizure and drowned in a bath after being left alone at Southern Health's Slade House, Headington.

A family statement released on the #JusticeforLB campaign website after the verdict at Oxford Crown Court in March said: "Families should not have to find for answers and accountability."

Players take a Vegas gamble

OXFORD pub poker players laid their cards on the table after winning a trip of a lifetime to the US for the chance to be crowned UK Pub Poker Champion.

John Hudgell, left, of the Qzone on Grenobles Road, and Tim Osborn, right, of the New Club on Blenheim Lane, will fly to the bright lights of Las Vegas on May 24 hoping to win a slice of the £25,000 prize pool.



Young carer: Amber Henshaw



Leader of the year: Emily Gledhill



Volunteer of the year: Lucy Haggie



Office employee: Iain Urquhart

Carers honoured for their hard work at awards ceremony

OXFORDSHIRE carers have been recognised for their tireless work at a special awards ceremony last week.

The Orders of St John Care Trust's annual Employee Awards took place on Wednesday last week at The Randolph Hotel, Oxford.

The Trust's chief executive Dan Hayes said: "I am constantly blown away by the hard work and dedication of our colleagues, who are committed

to enhancing the lives of those who call our residences homes."

Winners across 12 categories were recognised for their contribution with awards presented by deputy chair for The Orders of St John Care Trust, Millie Wentworth-Stanley, including:

■ Young Carer of the Year – Amber Henshaw, Madley Park House, Witney
■ Carer of the Year – Kathy Farley, Larkrise Care Centre, Banbury

■ Leader of the Year – Emily Gledhill, Langford View, Bicester

■ ECH (Extra Care Housing) Leader of the Year – Kayleigh Cross, The Paddocks, Chipping Norton

■ Unsung Hero – Richard Blaine, Spencer Court, Woodstock

■ ECH Unsung Hero – Michael Welsh, Oxlip House, Bury St Edmunds

■ Newcomer of the Year – Dion Webster, Stirlings Care Home, Wantage

■ ECH Newcomer of the Year – Maria Cruz, Erdington House, Yarnton

■ Hospitality Award – Samantha Aspin, Meadowcroft, Thame

■ Volunteer of the Year – Lucy Haggie, Madley Park House, Witney

■ Activity Coordinator – Beverley Cotton, Langford View, Bicester

■ Office (Homes) Employee of the Year – Iain Urquhart, Westgate House, Wallingford.



The two poker stars will represent Oxford in the City of Lights after qualifying from the UK's largest live pub poker league, VEGAS100, now in its 12th year.

VEGAS100, organised by Redtooth Poker, takes in more than 1,000 venues and has in excess of 200,000 registered players.

Martin Green, managing director of Redtooth Poker, said: "We are delighted to finally secure our 100 players for the trip to Las Vegas."

"These are the best pub poker players in the UK so they fully deserve this once in a lifetime trip to America."



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Thousands preparing to join scouts but volunteers needed

By George Welch

A RECORD number of people are signing up to join the Oxfordshire Scouts, with more than a thousand wannabe members stuck on the organisation's waiting list.

The number who are part of county groups increased by nearly 200 over the last year, according to latest annual membership figures released this month.

In total there are 2,520 adults and 6,976 young people now part of the Oxfordshire groups.

The annual membership census also highlighted that there are 1,124 young people waiting to join – but more than 150 new volunteers are needed to cater for the demand.

Phil Earl, lead volunteer for Oxfordshire Scouting, said: "I am proud to see that we continue to achieve such strong growth for Scouting in the county."

"Providing our unique programme of adventure and skills for life to more young people is a huge achievement."

"Much of this is down to our amazing volunteers. As one of the county's leading youth charities, we're acutely aware of the importance of all the volunteers in Oxfordshire who



Growing movement: Oxfordshire Scouts County Camp at Blenheim Palace last year and inset, Phil Earl, lead volunteer

give up their time every single week to help others."

The national adventure group has seen an overall increase for the 13th consecutive year with 10,699 new youth members and 9,371 adult volunteers joining in the last 12 months.

The news comes after the Scout Association revealed the results of a survey showing the positive impact volunteering can have on mental

wellbeing for those involved.

A YouGov poll found the majority reported having improved life satisfaction and self-esteem since beginning volunteer work, as well as having reduced feelings of loneliness and stress.

Mr Earl said: "With the majority of volunteers saying they feel more motivated, confident and more skilled as a result of the work they do with us, it's not just the young people they are

working with that they're benefitting."

But Mr Earl said he is 'concerned' businesses are not doing all they can to better support employees who volunteer outside of work.

He added: "With known benefits to workers' productivity, confidence and the extra skills they are gaining – being more flexible clearly benefits employers as well as their staff."

Visit oxonscouting.org.uk for more information.

Tributes paid to Oxford teacher

TRIBUTES have been paid to a "passionate and skilled" University of Oxford teacher and father of three who died on the M40 last month.

Tsering Dhundup Gonkatsang, 66, known popularly by the nickname Genla, which is Tibetan for respected teacher, died after a collision on the M40 on April 27.

The father-of-three was taken to Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, where he later died.



His family said: "Genla will be remembered as a devoted husband, a loving father and grandfather; a thoroughly professional, yet kind, helpful, humble and patient colleague; a passionate and skilled teacher; and a local and dependable friend with a great sense of humour."

Mr Gonkatsang was the first Tibetan language instructor in the Oriental Institute at the University of Oxford and worked there since 2001.

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News

Toddlers are real Little Troopers up Snowdon

By George Welch

A TENACIOUS toddler led by example as he and his RAF dad battled soaring temperatures to conquer Mount Snowdon.

Air Force Sergeant Jon Burt-Matthews, based at RAF Benson near Wallingford, took on the nine-mile walk earlier this month, with three-year-old son Harry.

The pair were part of a group of 70 – including 18 children – attempting to climb 975 metres to the peak of Wales' tallest mountain and raise money for military charity Little Troopers.

Harry, who made friends with three-year-old Poppy, managed to walk a great deal of the route without being carried by his air traffic controller dad.

Jon said: "The trek was an amazing opportunity for children and adults alike to make friends with others sharing a common bond."

"Harry and his friend Poppy were two of the youngest walkers in the group and did everyone proud."

"They virtually jogged up over a third of the mountain, including some of the steepest sections, under their own steam."

"They had smiles on their faces the entire time and were buoyed on by



frequent train sightings and children's songs."

Jon and Harry have so far raised £450 towards their £500 target for Little Troopers.

Little Troopers is the first tri-service charity providing support to children with a serving parent. It began with a sponsored climb of

Mount Snowdon in 2011.

The event has been replicated every other year and become an important fundraiser.

Sponsorship funds initiatives such as a storytelling app, school resource packs and a summer camp for military families.

Founder Louise Fetigan said she is



Achievement and pride: Flight Sergeant Matt Lingham with daughter Poppy and Sergeant Jon Burt-Matthews with Harry on their way up Mount Snowdon

'so grateful' to Jon and Harry.

"Seeing such young children conquer the mighty Mount Snowdon was just amazing," she said.

"It was a really special weekend, full of achievement and pride."

Visit tinyurl.com/ybnuuomn to donate to Jon and Harry.



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News

Grandad's wooden cast will help with research

By George Welch

A GRANDFATHER who wore an environmentally friendly wooden cast as part of an NHS study after breaking his wrist has urged others to participate in research to help 'move things on'.

Charles Bee, from Charlbury, took part in a study comparing two casts after falling off a chair and breaking his wrist in September last year.

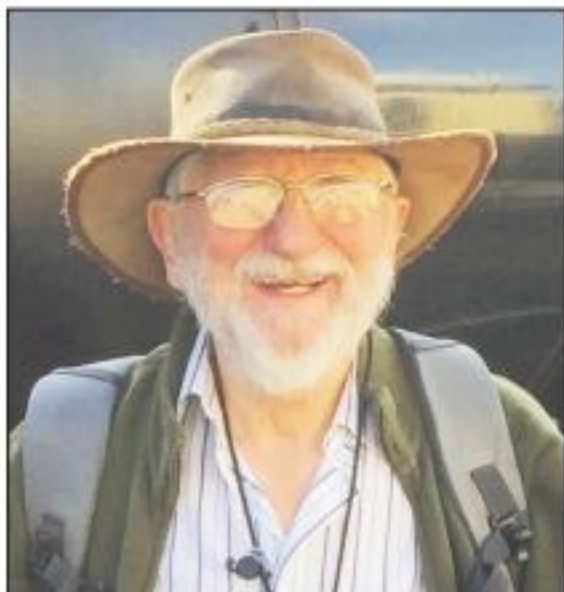
The 72-year-old was one of the first John Radcliffe Hospital patients to wear an eco-friendly wooden cast instead of the traditional rigid and non-biodegradable fibreglass cast.

NHS researchers believe the Woodcast, which can be removed and remoulded when heated up, has patient comfort and environmental cost benefits.

Charles, a grandfather-of-five, was standing on a chair and attempting to put out an oil lamp in his west Oxfordshire home when he fell and broke his wrist.

He said: "I fell off a chair which I shouldn't have been standing on in the first place. One or two people told me I must have been inebriated, but I just fell off the chair, end of story."

Charles visited his GP and A&E at



Patient trial: Charles Bee was given a wooden cast after he broke his arm

Witney Community Hospital before being offered the chance to take part in the Oxford-based trial.

"What made me want to take part in the trial, one pure and simple reason, was everybody should put themselves forward for us to move things on," he said.

Patients completed weekly online questionnaires until cast removal and again three months after injury to see how well they recover.

Charles said he benefited from having the wooden cast, as the study team were able to split it along the middle so it could be removed in case

of airport security checks.

He visited stepson Nicholas Smith in China three weeks after his injury, followed by a trip to see his daughter Alyson Bee in Australia.

Charles said: "It was quite comfortable. It solved a problem. The major help for me was it was light and I was able to remove it as I travelled."

Contact your doctor about research opportunities. Visit ukctg.nihr.ac.uk for trials seeking volunteers.

An open day on research opportunities in Oxford will be held on Tuesday next week at the Warneford Hospital.



Inside track on music industry

ASPIRING musicians have collaborated with a college specialising in the creative industries to fine tune their sound.

Students from the City of Oxford College visited SAE Oxford's state-of-the-art facilities in Littlemore to record tracks for their EPs.

They were able to broaden their experience by using industry-standard equipment and facilities to record in a professional setting.

The sessions also contribute to their coursework.

The EPs will be promoted extensively via social media and performed at a final major project event at the O2 Academy in Cowley Road over two nights on May 21 and 22.

Nick Reiber Hodgson, music

lecturer at City of Oxford College, said the opportunity provided students with an 'invaluable' experience of recording in a live lounge setting.

Second year student Ollie Rodgers is a member of indie rock band Eunoia.

He said: "Recording at SAE Institute in Oxford was an amazing experience. It gave a real insight into the recording processes, which ran seamlessly and without fault."

"Overall, a stellar performance and opportunity from SAE with outstanding facilities and staff supplying us with a backbone for our upcoming EP for Eunoia."

SAE, which offers degrees and short courses in audio, film, the music business and web development, will host an assessed gig for first year music students on May 24.

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Pets' gift for royal couple

A MENAGERIE of homeless pets in Burford has given a rather unique royal wedding gift that's not to be sniffed at.

The Blue Cross Pet Choir banded together to record a rough rendition of Here Comes The Bride as the charity's gift to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle ahead of this weekend's wedding.

Dozens of homeless pets at Blue Cross Burford, including a beagle pup named Marley and Tootles the kitten, performed on the track.

A chorus of dogs, cats, horses and rabbits in need of new homes barked, meowed, neighed and nibbled their way through the 37-second performance.

Jenna Martyn, Blue Cross

Burford centre manager, said:

"We know that Meghan Markle is a huge fan of rescue pets and the fantastic support she provides for animals is something we want to celebrate.

"To say congratulations to the royal couple on their wedding day, our homeless pets have given something special, they've given a gift of song with this rendition of Here Comes The Bride.

"Each pet seen and heard is desperately looking for their new family and we hope this loving wedding season will help them sing their way into loving new homes."

The track can be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/uCDfpBEDlc0>

Love is in the air: Marley is among those serenading Harry and Meghan



InBrief

Ram raid at Co-op

RAM raiders struck a Co-op in Carterton and made off with a cash machine in the latest of a series of break-ins at stores in the county including Oxford and Didcot.

Thames Valley Police confirmed the Co-op on Shilton Park, Marigold Square, was ram raided and the cash machine stolen on Tuesday at around 1.30am. It is thought a 'number of male offenders' were involved.

A police helicopter was deployed to look for the vehicle but tweeted it had "slipped the net this time".

Author to give talk

AUTHOR Christina Jones will celebrate the launch of her new book at an event in Abingdon.

The writer, born in Oxford who now lives in the town, will be at Mostly Books on Thursday next week to talk about her novel, Only One Woman – a love story set in the 1960s.

She will be at the Sturt Street shop from 7pm. Tickets are £4.

Visit mostly-books.co.uk for more information and to buy tickets.

Pawternity leave

STAFF at an Oxford-based Airbnb business, Airstorted, will be able to get 'pawternity' leave to work at home for a week to tend to new pets.

The company said it understands animals take time to settle in so is offering the flexible working time.

Children's letters to PM

A WALLINGFORD mother fighting for a life-changing drug for her daughter has campaigned for hundreds of children to write to the Prime Minister.

Zoe Bagley's four-year-old daughter Grace, has genetic disorder cystic fibrosis that affects her lungs. It has already led to multiple long-term stays in hospital during her short life.

Campaigners have been battling to get a drug prescribed on the NHS

called Orkambi, which could slow the decline in lung function by half in patients with a particular strain of CF.

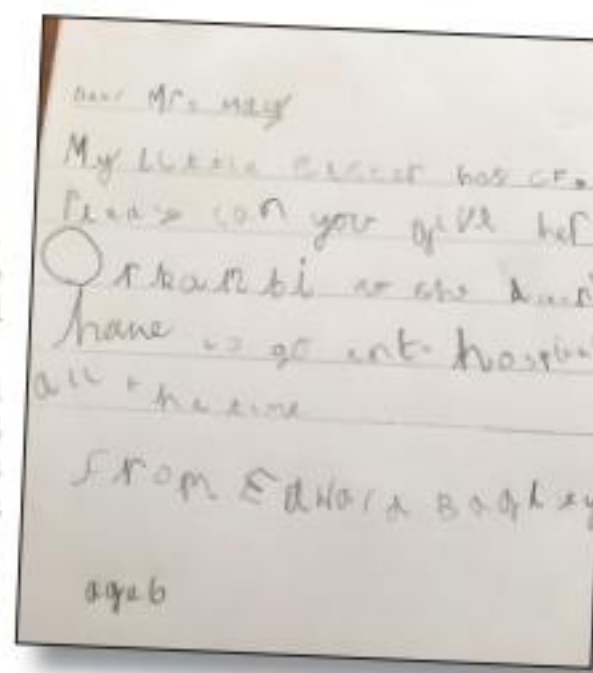
More than 100 children have written letters to Theresa May to ask for Orkambi to be available in the UK.

The letters, organised by the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, will be hand delivered to 10 Downing Street on June 16, among them are letters from Grace's six-year-old brother Edward and his school friends.

He wrote: "My little sister has CF. Please can you give her Orkambi so she doesn't have to go into hospital all the time."

Discussions between Orkambi manufacturers Vertex and NHS England have been slow moving as the organisations negotiate over costs but are due to meet again next Friday.

Help: Edward Bagley's letter on behalf of his sister Grace



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- > **East Oxford Community Centre**
Princes Street, Tuesday 29 May, 3-5pm
- > **Blackbird Leys Community Centre**
Blackbird Leys Road, Thursday 7 June, 3-5pm

Building a world-class city for everyone

Pupils promote walking benefit and road safety

TIME is running out for primary schools to get involved with a new road safety project that focuses on giving children the right to walk safely in their communities.

Thousands of children aged four to 11 from across the UK will put their best feet forward next month to promote road safety and the health benefits of walking.

Eight Oxfordshire schools including nearly 1,000 pupils have registered with road safety charity Brake's Kids Walk, previously known as the Giant Walk.

One of those is Mabel Prichard Special School in Oxford. Deputy headteacher Amanda Makoka said: "Pupils want to feel safe when they are out and about in their community."

"We believe by taking part in the kids' walk we will be able to spread the important message to road users and pedestrians."

The short, supervised walks will take place on Wednesday, June 13 at or around schools, with children walking in a crocodile formation and holding hands to promote the importance of kids being able to walk without fear.

Registered schools receive a free action pack full of posters, banners, lesson plans, assembly presentations and activities to help run the event.

For more information and to register visit brake.org.uk/kidswalk



Outdoor fun: Participants had a great time at Wychwood Project's recent whittling day

Children set to go wild at summer camps

YOUNGSTERS are gearing up for a summer camp encompassing nature, key educational skills and fun.

Conservation charity The Wychwood Project is running its Go Wild children's summer camp for eight to 12 year olds at the Ascott-under-Wychwood Conservation Centre in west Oxfordshire.

Organisers said the emphasis of

the five-day camp will be on outdoor activities and fun including building wildlife boxes, walks and jam making.

Learning officer Toby Swift said: "The summer holidays are the ideal time to get active outdoors and we are hoping to offer youngsters an unforgettable introduction to the natural world they see around them, through a host of activities."

"Ascott-under-Wychwood

Conservation Centre offers us ideal facilities for safe, fun learning, right in the heart of the historic Wychwood Forest area.

"I am really looking forward to what should be a delightful week with lots of young people taking part."

The Go Wild camp will run from August 13-17.

Visit wychwoodproject.org.uk for more information and to book.

InBrief

Are you sitting comfortably...?

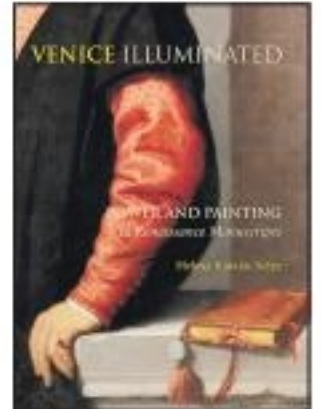
THE Bodleian Library at Oxford University has expanded its collection to a mammoth 13,000,000 books.

The landmark book to be added to the gigantic collection is a book on Renaissance manuscripts by Helena Katalin Szépe, pictured.

"If you read one book a week, it would still take you almost 250,000 years to get through our collections," a spokesperson said.

Visit bodleian.ox.ac.uk

for more information on the Board Street library.



Join teddy bears

SCHOOLCHILDREN across Oxfordshire will take part in the Ginormous Teddy Bears Picnic to raise money for charity.

The Murray Parish Trust, founded by actress Sarah Parish, will hold the event during June, encouraging schools and community groups to host their own picnics.

It is free to participate with a suggested donation of £1 per child.

Money raised will go towards a £2m target needed to complete the Children's Emergency and Trauma Department at Southampton Hospital.

Visit teddybearspicnic.org.uk

May picture removed to prevent messages

By George Welch

AN Oxford University picture of Theresa May has been taken down to protect it from student protests.

The picture of the Conservative Prime Minister, part of the university's celebration of women who had studied at the world-renowned institution, had been 'obscured' by critical messages.

The portrait was plastered with messages about political issues including immigration, the Windrush generation and Brexit.

"We are pleased to announce that the @theresa_may portrait has been removed from @oxfordgeography!" the Not All Geographers campaign announced last week.

But it was not taken down for the reasons they claimed. In a statement, a university spokesperson said: "The portrait was being obscured by posters bearing various messages, so it was taken down and will be re-displayed so it can be seen as intended."

Justifying its action, Not All Geographers campaign said: "[We] have creatively intervened for geographers everywhere to challenge the installation of a Theresa May portrait in Oxford Geography without consultation of the student body (at least)."

"This is unacceptable and



Protests: Students posted messages obscuring the picture of Theresa May

does little to inspire confidence in critical thought."

Universities Minister Sam Gyimah said it was 'utterly ridiculous' that 'even portraits are being no-platformed', adding that the university faculty should 'get a grip' and 'put the portrait back in a more prominent place'.

Mrs May graduated with a second class degree from St Hugh's in 1977.

In a note alongside the picture, Mrs May - who studied there from 1974 to 1977 - said: "I remember the School of Geography as a great place to meet, learn and enjoy finding out more about our world..."

"A greater understanding of the diversity and complexity of

our world and a respect for our environment, which I learnt in my degree, have stood me in good stead in my chosen career."

But the decision to display Mrs May's photograph was criticised by some students.

DPhil student Andrew Dyer posted on Twitter: "(Not so) Great to see @theresa_may placed alongside Doreen Massey in @oxfordgeography @UniofOxford, apparently one of the best alumnae we have."

"I don't really wish to celebrate a hostile environment for immigrants, if I'm honest."

Where the portrait has been re-displayed has not been confirmed.

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News

InBrief

Helping families

THE Midcounties Co-operative in Oxfordshire provided enough food to feed 410 families for three days in the last year.

Employees and shoppers at dozens of stores across the county donated more than 16,400 food items and supplies last year.

Demand for food parcels has risen for the ninth year in a row, the retailer said.

Follow ancient trail

RUNNERS, walkers and cyclists will have several opportunities this summer to follow a 5,000-year-old path through Oxfordshire.

Following a route used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsmen and soldiers, the 87-mile Ridgeway passes through ancient landscapes which were once home to hillforts, through downland, secluded valleys and woodland.

Visit tinyurl.com/ya5f7q5v for a calendar of events and more details.

Talking murder

DAME Katherine Grainger and Professor Anne-Marie Kilday will host a talk on murder and murderers, discussing how death fascinates people in the modern age.

Part of Oxford Brookes University's Think Human festival the academic talk will be held on Tuesday, 6pm to 7pm at the John Henry Brookes Building, Headington campus.

Charity of the year 2018 – Helen & Douglas House

Art helping children to express themselves and develop skills

By George Welch

PAINTING, pottery and sculptures will be among the creations decorating venues across the county this month for Oxfordshire Artweeks 2018.

But there was an extra special piece of artwork proudly on display during the first week of the arts and crafts extravaganza.

Eight terminally ill children from Helen & Douglas House made 12 individually designed nature-inspired pieces of art.

The works of art were hung proudly in the heart of the Cotswolds at a Sculpture at Kingham Lodge event.

Youngster Alex, pictured, was one of those to leave their impression during a recent stay at the East Oxford hospice.

Gemma Radnor, play specialist at the Headington charity, said the artwork helped children express themselves.

She said: "Play is one of the most important parts of childhood, especially for children with a terminal illness. It is an integral part of the holistic care we offer, as it is vital for

children's development.

"It allows children to explore their world, process and express their feelings, and develop new skills.

"This can lead to increased confidence and self-esteem, building resilience to the challenges they face. Play can bring simple joy to children, cherished even more by those who are seriously ill."

Sculpture at Kingham Lodge has supported Helen & Douglas House since its launch in 2012 – but this year was the first time terminally ill children have been involved.

Alison Hooker, community fundraiser at Helen & Douglas House, said the hospice is 'so grateful' for Kingham Lodge's support, adding that it was 'really exciting' for the kids to be involved.

Marina Colville, one of the



Beneficial: Nurse Hannah helps Alex finger printing wood circles

organisers, said: "We have had connections with Helen & Douglas House for many years and were inspired to raise money for them by the amazing stories of parents of children who had been helped by the hospice.

"When we launched Sculpture at Kingham Lodge in 2012 we instinctively

knew Helen & Douglas House would be one of our chosen charities."

Held biennially, Sculpture at Kingham Lodge has welcomed thousands of visitors and raised more than £80,000 for charity.

Visit hdh.org.uk to donate to terminally ill children at Helen & Douglas House.

Authors prove they have the write stuff

TALENTED Oxfordshire writers put pen to paper for the fourth annual writing competition as two authors add another chapter to their story.

This year's winners of the Oxfordshire Library Service's Short Story Competition 2018 are Phoebe Haywood, 16, in the young adult category, and Louise Brakespear in the adult category.

The competition showcases the breadth of writers from across the county by making their stories

available for any library user to read for free on the library Overdrive eBook service.

Burford resident Phoebe won with her story The Glass is Never Half Full examining approaches to life's difficulties, inspired by a visit to a hotel bar while on holiday.

She said: "I know loads of young writers must have submitted stories of an amazing quality, so I'm very honoured that my story won with all that competition."

It was third time lucky for Henley

Library user Louise who finally won the competition after entering twice previously. Her story A Passing Place tells a moving tale set in the aftermath of World War One.

She said: "I'm absolutely delighted, really thrilled. It's nice to think others have enjoyed the story."

Phoebe and Louise's winning entries can be read on the Oxfordshire Library eBook website at: <https://bit.ly/2KMPWMI>

Full of Pride in rainbow bus

THE streets of Oxford will become a little brighter with a rainbow-coloured bus celebrating Oxford Pride.

Passengers can keep an eye out for The Oxford Bus Company's eye-catching new bus as it supports diversity and the Oxford Pride group.

Decked out in Pride's rainbow colours the dazzling City bus has been transformed to brighten up Oxford's streets.

Bus 367, which serves Abingdon and other City routes was branded with the new livery and the slogan 'proudly supporting Oxford Pride'.

This year's theme is True Colours, celebrating the diversity of the Oxfordshire community and aiming to raise awareness and inclusivity of all LGBT+ people.

The bus company selected Oxford Pride as one of its 2018 community and charity partners.



Full of pride: From left, Luke Marion, Oxford Bus Company finance and commercial director; Phil Southall, managing director; Andrew Morison, commercial manager; Paul McGinn, Oxford Pride chair; Lewis Nagle, bus enthusiast who designed the livery; Andrew Mudd, Oxford Pride community liaison officer; Debbie Brixey, communications and fundraising officer and Mazz Image, Oxford Pride festival and parade officer

Managing director Phil Southall said: "The bus looks fantastic and we are proud to back Oxford Pride.

"One of our core values is embracing diversity and it is this important every day philosophy that inspires us to support organisations like Oxford Pride."

Oxford Pride videos have already been shown on 41 buses, reaching an average of 100,000 people per week.

Oxford Pride 2018 takes place between May 25 and June 3 with Pride Day featuring a parade on Saturday, June 2.

Helen & Douglas House
hospice care for children and young adults

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Out & About



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Out About

Fabulous fest for foodies

By Samantha McGregor

THE magnificent grounds of Blenheim Palace will be transformed into a foodie's paradise over the next bank holiday weekend.

This year's festival will feature more demos, more local producers and more tastings than ever before ensuring tastebuds will be well and truly tickled.

Alongside the fantastic range of food, drink and activities for the whole family to enjoy, there will be guest appearances from Michelin-starred Oxfordshire chef Raymond Blanc and winner of this year's MasterChef, Kenny Tutt.

The Blenheim Palace Food Festival from May 26 to 28 will boast 130 stalls featuring mouthwatering treats from artisan bakers, craft brewers, gin distillers, gourmet burgers, international cuisine, traditional ice cream and handmade sweets.

Last year's event attracted more than 25,000 visitors and organisers are expecting more through the splendid gates this year.

Festival organiser, Jeff Harper from the Fantastic British Food Festivals is really excited about this year's event.

He said: "We've organised fascinating masterclasses with food and drink experts, including one of the world's most respected



chefs, Raymond Blanc.

"Masterchef 2018 champion Kenny Tutt is cooking one of his triumphant dishes in the demo tent and is available for a Q&A session.

"Other guests include Great British Bake Off winner Sophie Faldo to share her baking secrets; Emily Watkins, chef proprietor at the award-winning Kingham Plough [near Chipping Norton] and talented Andrew Scott from Sudbury House [Faringdon].

"The Lunch Box Doctor Jenny Tschiesche, is available to offer nutritional advice for children and the incredibly charismatic truffle and mushroom hunter, Melissa Waddingham will discuss fungi foraging!"

New for this year in the palace pleasure gardens is the Cheese and Chilli zone showcasing the finest of both available.

And if all that's not enough, entertain the family with strolling musicians and storytellers and then explore the pleasure gardens, maze and adventure playground while the children – and perhaps adults too – run off some of the fabulous food they sampled around the grounds.

To enjoy the festival you will need a Park & Garden ticket or a valid annual pass – adult tickets £13.50, children £6.50, concessions £10.50 or family tickets £37.50.

For more information and to book tickets go to www.blenheimpalace.co.uk



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Headline Act
Chris McCausland is a British stand-up comedian and actor from Liverpool. Chris is blind, has been performing stand-up since 2003, and has long been firmly established at the very top of the UK's live comedy circuit. He performs all over the country, including regularly at the world famous Comedy Store in the heart of London's West End. He has also performed all over the world, including India, Singapore, Malaysia, across the Middle East, and throughout Europe. He has appeared on Miranda Hart's *Unwrapped* on BBC2, ITV4's *Stand Up Hero* and two series of Comedy Central's *The Comedy Store*.
 2018 has already seen him appear on *Live at the Apollo* on BBC2.

Comper
Kevin McCarthy is one of the biggest acts on the UK comedy circuit. With an ever changing act, and the ability to find humour in any subject, Kevin's cuddly personality and utterly relaxed stage persona puts the audience instantly at ease.
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TV Credits include: *Saturday Night Live - ITV1*, *Through The Cakehole - BBC1*

David Whitney
 A Scottish born Comic got his first gig at the Friars Club, Beverly Hills as a result of a series of lies that meant he couldn't get out of it. "You can't stop him, you can only hope to contain him" - *Reginald D. Hunter*
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Superheroes' night's dream

By Samantha McGregor

A "RIOTOUS" reinterpretation of one of Shakespeare's best loved plays, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, comes to Oxford this month.

Arguably Shakespeare's most fun play, it is packed full of mischievous fairies, matchmaking gone awry and music aplenty.

But this Lyric Hammersmith and Filter Theatre's production takes it a step further – it also throws in stand-up comedy, live rock music and superheroes to boot.

A Midsummer Night's Dream takes to the stage at the Oxford Playhouse for a week-long run until Saturday, May 19.

Originally staged in 2012, it was revived by the Lyric in 2016 and has toured across the world, to rave reviews.

The unique and irreverent twist to this classic tale of young lovers and warring fairies makes it the ideal show for Shakespeare novices and die-hard fans and is the perfect introduction to Shakespeare for teenagers.

A Midsummer Night's Dream was written by the Bard in 1595/96, and consists of four interconnecting plots set around the marriage of Theseus, the Duke of Athens, to Hippolyta, the former queen of the Amazons.

Hermia wants to marry Lysander, but her father wants her to marry Demetrius, so the pair plot to elope.



Meanwhile, her friend Helena, who is in love with Demetrius herself, tells him of the lovers' plan to elope in a bid to win his affection.

That night they all set out into the forest just as a group of tradesmen, known as the Mechanicals, are rehearsing a play which they intend to stage to celebrate the king's marriage, and the Fairy King Oberon

has sent his servant Puck to find a magic plant that will cast a spell on the Fairy Queen Titania to make her fall in love with the first person she sees. What could possibly go wrong?

Tickets for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Oxford Playhouse start at £10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or go to oxfordplayhouse.com



Belshazzar's Feast: Paul Hutchinson and Paul Sartin are at The White House in Oxford tomorrow
Picture: Luke Pajak

Enjoy a feast of folk music

JUST back from performing in Australia at the National Folk Festival, folk duo Belshazzar's Feast head out on a UK tour, which includes a stop in Oxford.

Comprising Paul Hutchinson, of HooverThe Dog, and Paul Sartin, who worked with Bellowhead and is a current member of Faustus, the duo are now in their 23rd year together celebrating their unique sound of traditional folk music with a touch of classical and jazz, pop, music hall and topping it off with their own brand of wry humour.

They take to the stage at Oxford Folk Club, The White House, tomorrow.

Paul Hutchinson said: "We're delighted to be making a long-

awaited return to the wonderful Oxford Folk Club – home from home, as it's one of the first venues to have booked us 20 years ago!

"This will be another chance to see old friends and meet new ones, and to wreak havoc at the Club and at BBC Radio Oxford during the afternoon. I hope Oxford is ready for us."

Belshazzar's Feast received a coveted nomination for the Best Duo Award at the 2010 BBC Folk Awards and are regulars at folk festivals across the summer, as well as touring including a popular annual Christmas tour of seasonal songs and tunes.

For tickets, which cost £8/9, available by calling 01865 768128 or 01865 790106, or view oxfordfolkclub.com

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Out About

Dance stars of the future

YOUNG stars will have the chance to shine when Central School of Ballet's renowned graduate performing company Ballet Central embarks on its annual nationwide tour.

Under the artistic direction of Christopher Marney, Ballet Central's diverse range of dance and theatre will perform in 20 towns and cities across England and Wales and will be dancing at The Theatre, Chipping Norton on June 2.

This season's repertoire is testament to the distinguished choreographers who support the young dance company: Matthew Bourne of New Adventures provides Fairies Prologue from his gothic-reworking of Sleeping Beauty and, for the first time, Ballet Central will present an excerpt from FAR by multi award-winning choreographer and director Wayne McGregor.

After the success of last year's Romeo & Juliet, choreographer Jenna Lee returns with her brand new creation Black Swan, a dark twist on the iconic classic.

To follow, and celebrating the life and work of Kenneth MacMillan, there will be an excerpt from MacMillan's rarely-seen 1983 ballet Valley of Shadows inspired by Georgio Bassani's haunting novel The Garden of the Finzi-Continis.

To close the performance, Marney will revive scenes from Christopher Gable's Cinderella on



Anniversary performance:
Ayca Anil and Harris Beattie in Cinderella by Christopher Gable
Picture: ASH Photography

developed a programme for the 2018 tour that offers storytelling, technique and drama.

"We are visiting many cities and towns in the UK for the first time", he continued, "a chance for new audiences to see this exciting repertoire performed by exceptional dance talent on the cusp of their professional careers."

The cast will consist of students in their final year of a three-year BA (Hons) degree in Professional Dance and Performance in order to gain invaluable touring experience before graduation.

Tickets are £15.50, to book head to chippingnortontheatre.com

the 25th anniversary of its creation, set to an acclaimed score by Ballet Central's resident composer Philip Feeney.

Ahead of the tour Marney said: "Following last year's enthusiastic response to our varied programme of dance theatre, I have, alongside our valued partner choreographers,

Settle in for an evening of one liners with very silly Tim Vine

Master of the one-liner, Tim Vine is back on tour, telling lots of silly new jokes, showing off new homemade props and singing some daft new songs.

Vine sold out the entire run of this new show at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where he has previously won the award for Dave's Funniest Joke Of The Fringe in 2010 and 2014, as well as taking runner-up spots in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Fresh from his success on BBC Radio 4 with The Tim Vine Chat Show and on BBC One with The Very Silly Tim Vine Travels Through Time, Tim will be arriving at The New Theatre, Oxford on June 5 for an evening of comedy where quantity takes precedence.

Since winning the Perrier Newcomer award at the Fringe back in 1995, the former world record holder for most jokes told in an hour has gone on to perform numerous sell-out tours and festivals in the UK and beyond.

On the back of these shows he has released five stand up DVDs including Punslinger, Jokeamotive and Tim Timinee Tim Timinee Tim Tim To You, and his vast wealth of material has been preserved in books such as The Biggest Ever Tim Vine Joke Book



and The Tim Vine Bumper Book Of Silliness.

Besides stand-up, Vine has had acting success with Not Going Out, The Sketch Show and Blandings on television, and he wrote, directed and performed in the feature film Fearmouth which premiered at the Brighton Film Festival in November 2017.

He also presented gameshows like Whittle, Fluke and Don't Blow The Inheritance, was a finalist in Let's Dance For Comic Relief 2013, and won Sport Relief's Let's Play Darts.

Providing support is the comedy magician John Archer.

Tickets are £27.65 excluding fees, and the show kicks off at 7.30pm. To learn more or to book, head to atgtickets.com

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Out&About Competition

WIN tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel

On 23-24 June, a fantastic collection of world-class classic competition cars, road cars and bikes – some over a century old – along with an impressive collection of military machines and vintage planes will descend on Bicester Heritage for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel. And you could win tickets for you and your family as we have two family passes up for grabs!

The spectacular event will play host to incredible live demonstrations both on the ground and in the air at the historic site, while the Show's Vintage Village will feature period fairground rides, live music performances, shopping and a huge range of food stalls.

Automobile lovers will delight at the spectacle from the finest that the classic car world has to offer, taking to the demo track to show off in glorious tyre-squealing style. Classic motor clubs will stage displays and the open-access paddock lets visitors get up close to these magnificent machines, while there will also be an impressive collection of historic military vehicles on display, and even passenger rides in the live-action tank arena!

Closing date: Thursday, June 14, 2018

Moving from the ground to the skies, there will be fantastic air displays of historic aircraft, including daily air displays from the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF) Dakota, the Bremont Great War Display Team and the magnificent trio that is the BBMF Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster.

The Bremont Great War Display will stage an exhilarating recreation of a WW1 'dogfight', with aircraft such as Sopwith and Fokker Dr1 triplanes showing just how nimble these early warbirds were. Also taking to the skies will be top display pilot and former British Female Aerobatic Champion Lauren Wilson, who will give a thrilling demonstration of the agility of her glorious, bright red Pitts Special aerobatic biplane.

Film buffs are also in for a treat as they'll be able to see filming spots that have been used for box office hits The Imitation Game and The Darkest Hour at Bicester Heritage, the UK's best

preserved Second World War Bomber Station.

For your chance to win one of two family tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel just answer the following simple question:

Q: What plane will Lauren Wilson be flying in her display?

A family ticket admits two adults and up to three children (aged 5-15), entry for children under five years is free, parking is also free.

Tickets for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel are on sale with advance tickets starting from £23 per adult, £10 per child (5-15) and £55 per family. Entry for children under the age of five years is free, as is parking. VIP package upgrades are also available, which include parking and hospitality.

For further information and to purchase tickets for Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel, visit www.classicandsportscarshow.com.



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Your weekly puzzle challenge

4	18	22	4		18	1	3	18	4			3	24	23
24		15		8		20		24			15			18
22	21	4	18	24	4	23		1	12	20	21	6		
		5		17		11		3		1			21	
26	8		15	6		1	18	24		25	21	17		26
15					15	10	18	4	24		17			21
20	10	1	21	6	18		15	9	13	5	18	17		
4		20		6	18	17	1	18						18
14	24	23	18		6	20	18		21	1	21		1	
13		23		21		23		19		23				
24	2	24	4	6			16	8	15	2	21	17	5	
4		4		18			18		7		8			18
6	24	13			24	5	4	18	18	23	18	17		14

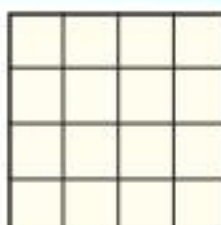
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

NO ONE'S PALE-HEADED

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.



Easy Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. **Hard**

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

										2					4	5	8
5			7	4	6	9	3	2				1			7		2
	7		1	9	2		4			8	5	2					
	2							1	4		3					7	
1		4		8				9				6		3			
						3	6			9						1	
9	8		4	3	7				2			7	5			4	
3	6		9				8						2	6	1		
2		7		6				3	3	5							

Quiz Challenge

1. Which ballet, by Léo Delibes, tells the story of a doll with whom her creator becomes infatuated?
2. Which country in Central America used to be called British Honduras?
3. The La Liga football team Real Betis is based in which Spanish city?
4. In which English county is the 17th century hill figure known as the Cerne Abbas Giant?
5. Which four-letter word with the same name as a country, is a small disc of paper produced by a hole punch?
6. Nutmeg is the own-brand clothing label of which supermarket chain?
7. What is the name of the surgical procedure in which all, or part, of the frontal lobe of the brain is removed?
8. English singer and actress Vanessa White rose to fame in 2008 as a member of which all-girl group?
9. What is the only surname to be shared by a US president and a UK prime minister?
10. Best known for their hit song Fade to Grey, which band was fronted by Steve Strange?

R	A	N
I	G	O
I	N	C

How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines:
20 Good; 23 Very Good;
27 Excellent

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.

WI	NO	RC	UL	DS
IM		HI		WR
AR	NA	DO	ID	OE
EG		IG		LA
SE	TR	RE	EO	RL

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

A 24x24 crossword puzzle grid. The grid is composed of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The black squares form a repeating pattern of a 4x4 grid of black squares. The grid is numbered 1 through 24 in the top row, indicating the starting positions for the across clues.

1. Mean and looking ready for a fight? (5-6)
9. Danes strayed in the mountains (5)
10. Previously a nobleman, one associated with monarch (7)
11. Horse hurried round the ring (4)
12. House of Orange? (8)
14. Enjoyment little Augustus has from mouldy plant (6)
15. A theologian I caught was a devotee (6)
18. Survey that maps out the artillery? (8)
20. Obscure eastern American coin (4)
22. Charm of loved one going after disheartened girl (7)
23. Came across a pound of gold, for example (5)
24. It is used for stock movements (6.5)

2. Reserved tie found in the hotel (7)
3. Accepts minimal charge for a metal fastening (4)
4. Weak charge blew away last letter (6)
5. Unperturbed about notice of music played to a lover (8)
6. Those chosen from among the literati (5)
7. They are used to pick up the untouchables (4,2,5)
8. Speedy offstage response (6,5)
13. Wander freely in a light motor car (8)
16. There's no sense in being this (7)
17. Rarely encountered mark on the church (6)
19. Girl transformed naiad (5)
21. Moslem prince gets himself out of the mire (4)

2 4
2 ○ 4 ○ 7
4 4
4 ○ 4 ○ 0
8 1

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same.

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

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1	2		3		4		5		6		7	
							8					
9									10			
11		12					13		14		15	
17							18					
20	21		22						23		24	
25							26					
							27					28
29							30					
32							33					

[illegible]

1. Influenced (8)	26. Spicy dish (5)	11. Cautionary light (5)
6. Arrive (4)	29. Short skirt (4)	12. Caper (5)
8. Old unit of length (3)	30. Figure of speech (8)	13. Art of reasoning (5)
9. Church of England (8)	31. Total (3)	14. Unit of electricity (3)
10. Expel (4)	32. Talk informally (4)	15. Appreciate (5)
12. Metal block (5)	33. Respecting (8)	16. Expiring (5)
14. In front (5)	DOWN	19. Garden plot (3)
17. Chinese dynasty (4)	2. Animal tooth (4)	21. Social outcast (6)
18. Ordinarily (8)	3. London borough (6)	22. Clear a windscreen (6)
20. Widespread outbreak (8)	4. Ploy (6)	23. Habit (6)
24. Obscene material (inf.) (4)	5. Small hollow (4)	24. Appropriate (6)
	6. One of the Fates (6)	27. Girl's name (4)
		28. Stupid person (4)



PAUL KING,
Head of April
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- ✓ How to deal with estranged children in your Will.
- ✓ Lasting Power of Attorney and how they can help you and your family
- ✓ Making a Will for the first time.
- ✓ How to include or exclude step-children / step-grandchildren.

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The majority of the people who support Sobell House have had a connection with the hospice. We find that many chose physical exercise such as walking and running as their way of showing their gratitude for the services that we provided for a loved one.

So we are keen to give

our supporters the opportunity to get fit and feel healthy and, at the same time, help Sobell House to continue to care for people living with a terminal illness across Oxfordshire.

Here are some of the immediate opportunities that you can join to come and get fit with us www.sobellhouse.org for more information or call us on 01865857007

The Moonlight Stroll – 23 June 2018 – 9pm

This is our best supported event – hundreds of people come together of an evening to walk for Sobell House and show their support and appreciation for the work that we do.

It is an 8-mile walk through the streets of



Oxford, with marshals at every turn helping you stay on course.

Sign up at www.sobellhouse.org/moonlight-stroll

The Oxford Half Marathon – 7 October

If you're a little more experienced or want to set yourself a new challenge, we are now taking entries for the Oxford Half Marathon.

With over 100 runners, last year Team Sobell was the largest single team in the race. Let's try and do even better this year, get your place now and take advantage of our special charity places!

To sign up and get your special code email kevin.game@sobellhospice.org or call 01865 857012

Unfortunately we have been forced to cancel our Forget Me Not fun run on Sunday 20th May. We will be contacting registered runners separately

Walking is a fantastic way to improve mental and physical health, through exercise, fresh air, time away from the pressures we face in everyday life.

At Sobell House we attach a lot of importance to the overall well-being of our patients, their physical and mental health matters to us. Our priority is on enabling patients to retain their mobility and independence for as long as possible, and to

support people in living as well and as fully as possible in the time that they have left.

Our fantastic multi-disciplinary team, made up of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, a psychiatrist and a range of art therapists, works together to ensure patients have the tools as well as the physical aids that they need to help make many of the small everyday tasks that we all take

If you would like to hear more about the work of Sobell House, or keep up to date with our events please email mail@sobellhospice.org

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10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am AI: Britain's Longest Road
11.45am The Housing Enforcers

BBC 2

7.30pm Extreme Wales with Richard Parks



7.15am Royal Recipes
8.00am Antiques Roadshow
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

ITV

2.00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories



8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

Channel 4

9.00pm Gogglebox



7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

Channel 5

7.00pm The Gadget Show



8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm The Doctor Blake Mysteries
3.15pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm Royal Recipes
4.30pm Hardball
5.15pm Pointless

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Perfection
1.45pm Going Back Giving Back
2.30pm Digging for Britain
3.30pm Victorian Farm
4.30pm Street Auction
5.15pm Antiques Road Trip

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Coast v Country
1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm The £100k Drop
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Buy it Now
6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook
3.20pm The Dater's Handbook
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The Royal Wedding: They're Getting Married in the Morning
8.00pm EastEnders
8.30pm The Button
9.00pm Have I Got News for You
9.30pm Home from Home
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.25pm Regional News and Weather
10.35pm The Graham Norton Show
11.25pm Would I Lie to You?
11.55pm Young, Welsh and Pretty Minted

6.00pm Athletics
7.30pm Extreme Wales with Richard Parks
8.00pm Gardeners' World
9.00pm The Bridge
10.00pm Frankie Boyle's New World Order
10.30pm Newsnight
11.05pm Being Blacker
12.35am Panorama
1.05am Civilisations on Your Doorstep
2.05am My Turban and Me
2.35am This is BBC Two

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm Countrywise
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Lethal Weapon
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
11.15pm Through the Keyhole
12.10am Jackpot247
3.00am Take on the Twisters

7.30pm Unreported World
8.00pm Our Wildest Dreams
9.00pm Gogglebox
10.00pm Friday Night Dinner
10.30pm High and Dry
11.00pm The Meghan Markle Effect
12.00am The Windsors Royal Wedding Special
1.00am Attack the Block
2.30am Humans
3.25am Gok's Fill Your House for Free
4.20am Best Laid Plans
5.15am Kirstie's Vintage Gems
5.25am Fifteen to One

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm The Gadget Show
8.00pm Secrets of the World's Greatest Mountains
9.00pm Britain's Favourite Royal
10.30pm Harry and Meghan: In Their Own Words
11.30pm Lip Sync Battle UK
12.00am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Intercity 125: The Train That Saved Britain's Railways
4.45am House Doctor



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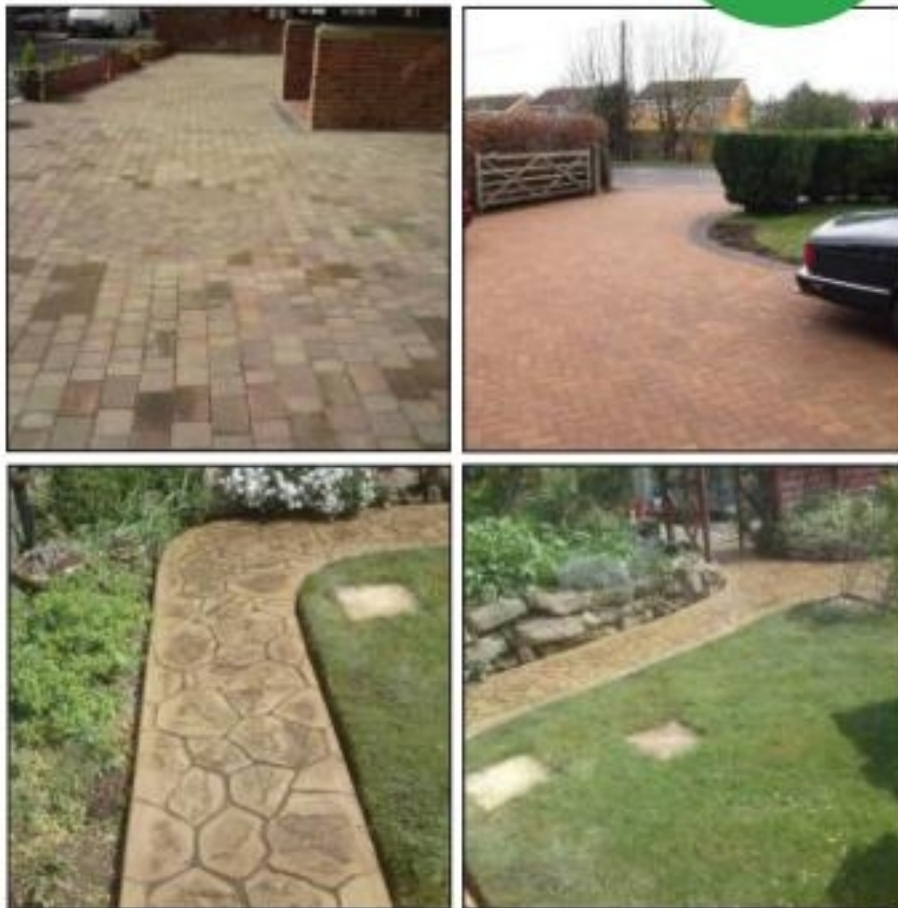
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Saturday May 19th

TOP TV

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

BBC 1

3.20pm
FA Cup

9.00am The Royal Wedding: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle

2.00pm Football Focus
3.00pm Mourinho and Manchester United
3.20pm FA Cup
3.50pm BBC News
4.00pm Regional News and Weather
4.10pm Match of the Day Live
5.00pm Match of the Day Live

7.40pm Pointless
8.30pm Casualty
9.20pm All Round to Mrs Brown's
10.20pm BBC News
10.50pm Match of the Day
11.25pm The Button
11.55pm The Wedding Video
1.25am Weather for the Week Ahead
1.30am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

12.00pm
Tron Legacy

8.30am Beyond Bionic
9.00am Robot Wars
10.00am Astronauts: Do You Have What it Takes?
11.00am SAS: Rogue Warriors

12.00pm Tron Legacy
2.00pm The World According to Kids
3.00pm Love in the Countryside
4.00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
5.00pm The Forest
5.30pm Pangolins - The World's Most Wanted Animal

6.30pm Dad's Army
7.00pm The Royal Wedding: Highlights of the Day
8.30pm Motty Mastermind
9.00pm Motty - the Man Behind the Sheepskin
10.05pm Countdown to the Full Motty
10.35pm The Damned United
12.05am False Trail
2.10am This is BBC Two
6.35am Glorious Gardens From Above

ITV

6.30pm Ninja Warrior UK



7.30am Teen Titans Go!
7.45am Adventure Time
8.00am Thunderbirds are Go
8.25am Zoe Ball on Saturday
9.25am Harry and Meghan: The Royal Wedding

3.00pm Tenable
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV Evening News
6.15pm ITV News London
6.30pm Ninja Warrior UK
7.30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
8.00pm Britain's Got Talent
9.20pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
9.50pm ITV News
10.20pm Jaws 3
12.15am Change Your Tune
1.20am Jackpot247
3.00am Mr Selfridge
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
6.00am Sooty

Channel 4

9.00pm
The Martian

7.10am King of Queens
8.00am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.00am Frasier
10.30am The Big Bang Theory
11.55am The Simpsons

12.25pm The Simpsons
12.55pm The Simpsons
1.30pm Come Dine with Me
2.30pm A Place in the Sun
3.30pm A Place in the Sun
4.30pm Location, Location, Location
5.35pm The Secret Life of the Zoo

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Grand Designs
8.00pm Titanic: The New Evidence
9.00pm The Martian
11.50pm Sinister 2
1.30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
2.20am Hollyoaks Omnibus
4.30am Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star
5.00am Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star
5.25am Fifteen to One
6.15am King of Queens

Channel 5

6.20pm
Britannia: Secrets of the Royal Yacht

9.10am Shimmer and Shine
9.30am Digby Dragon
9.45am Peppa Pig
10.00am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.30am The Gadget Show
11.25am Police Interceptors

12.05pm Police Interceptors
1.05pm Police Interceptors
2.05pm Police Interceptors
3.00pm Harry and Meghan: A Royal Romance
4.40pm 5 News Weekend
4.45pm FIA Formula E Live

6.20pm Britannia: Secrets of the Royal Yacht
7.15pm The Queen Mary: Cruising with the Royals
8.15pm Elizabeth I
9.20pm To be Announced
10.15pm Harry and Meghan: A Royal Romance
12.15am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Extraordinary People
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am The Great Artists
5.35am Wildlife SOS

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STEAM ON BANK HOLIDAY SUN & MON 27 - 28 MAY KIDS-FOR-A-QUID!

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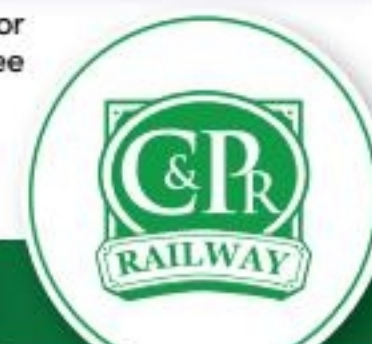
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Sunday May 20th

TOP TV

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

BBC 1

8.00pm
Antiques
Roadshow

8.25am Match of the Day
9.00am The Andrew Marr Show
10.00am Feel the Spirit - A Jazz
Celebration Service
for Pentecost
11.00am Sunday Politics

12.15pm Homes Under the Hammer
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm Bargain Hunt
2.10pm Points of View
2.25pm Songs of Praise
3.00pm Cinderella
4.35pm Britain's Best Home Cook
5.35pm BBC News
5.50pm Regional News and Weather

6.00pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
7.00pm Countryfile
8.00pm Antiques Roadshow
9.00pm A Very English Scandal
10.00pm BBC News
10.20pm Regional News and Weather
10.30pm Imagine...
11.35pm The Women's Football Show
12.10am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.15am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

6.00pm
Dragons' Den

7.50am Gardeners' World
8.50am Countryfile
9.45am The Beechgrove Garden
10.15am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
11.45am Spring Kitchen with
Tom Kerridge

12.30pm Athletics
2.30pm Escape to the Country
3.15pm Garden Rescue
4.00pm World's Most
Extraordinary Homes
5.00pm Athletics

6.00pm Dragons' Den
7.00pm Million Pound Menu
8.00pm Neanderthals - Meet
Your Ancestors
9.00pm Burma with Simon Reeve
10.00pm Atlanta
10.25pm Atlanta
10.50pm Later Weekend... with
Jools Holland
11.50pm Burke and Hare
1.15am Question Time
2.15am Holby City
3.15am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

8.00pm
Midsomer
Murders

8.00am The Haunted Hathaways
8.25am ITV News
8.30am Zoe Ball on Sunday
9.25am Countrywise
10.00am Peston on Sunday
11.00am Britain's Got Talent

12.15pm Britain's Got More Talent
1.15pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.25pm Ninja Warrior UK
2.30pm Paul O'grady: For the
Love of Dogs
3.00pm Change Your Tune
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special

6.00pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
6.30pm ITV Evening News
6.45pm ITV News London
7.00pm Little Big Shots
8.00pm Midsomer Murders
10.00pm ITV News
10.20pm Peston on Sunday
11.20pm This Time Next Year
12.10am Great Art
1.00am Jackpot247
3.00am Motorsport UK
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show
6.00am Good Morning Britain

Channel 4

2.50pm
Cheaper by
the Dozen 2

7.35am Eat the Week with Iceland
8.30am Frasier
9.00am Frasier
9.30am Sunday Brunch

12.30pm Bake Off: The Professionals
1.30pm The Simpsons
1.55pm The Simpsons
2.25pm The Simpsons
2.50pm Cheaper by the Dozen 2
4.40pm Location, Location, Location
5.40pm Grand Designs

6.35pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Escape to the Chateau
8.00pm Bake Off: The Professionals
9.00pm The Handmaid's Tale
10.15pm Gogglebox
11.10pm First Dates
12.15am The Perks of Being a Wallflower
2.00am Meet the Markles
2.55am Best Laid Plans
3.50am Gok's Fill Your House for Free
4.45am Mobil 1 the Grid
5.10am Fifteen to One
6.00am Countdown
6.45am 3rd Rock from the Sun

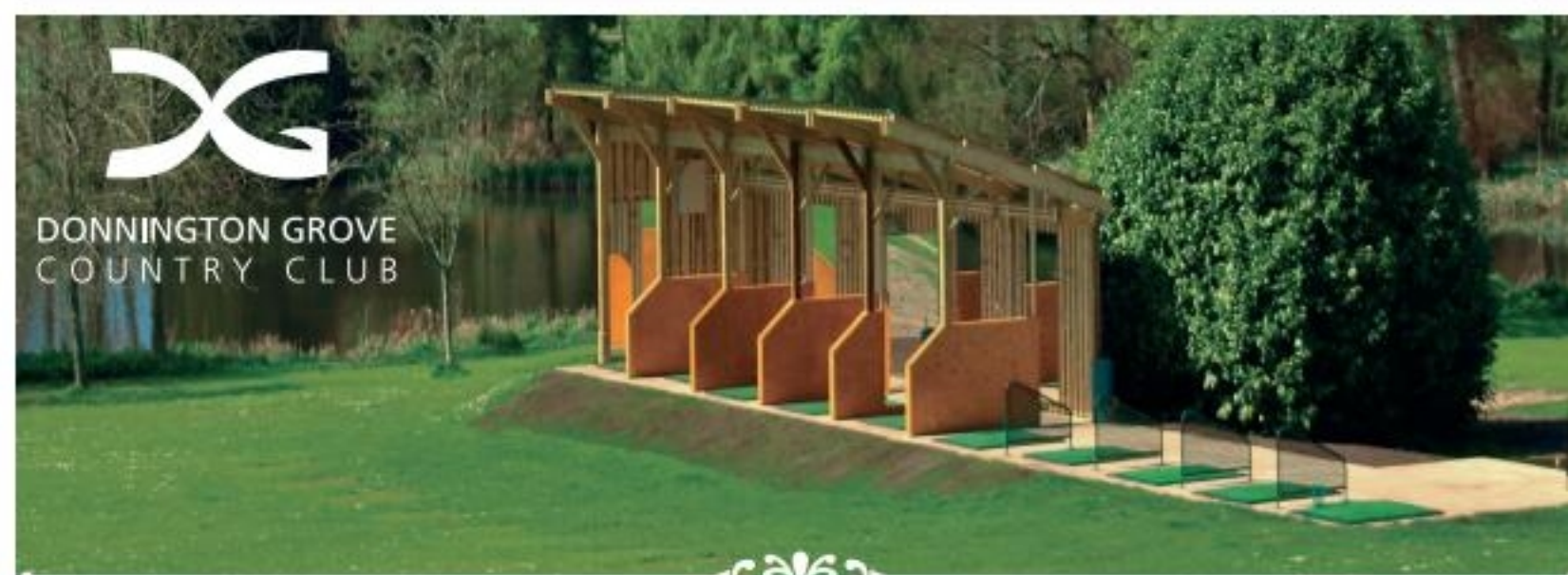
Channel 5

5.05pm The
Lego Movie

9.55am Peppa Pig
10.00am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.30am Naughty Dogs Make
You Laugh Out Loud
11.25am Naughty Toddlers Make
You Laugh Out Loud

12.20pm Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud
1.25pm Garfield
3.00pm Batteries Not Included
5 News
4.00pm Batteries Not Included
5.05pm The Lego Movie

7.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
8.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
8.55pm 5 News Weekend
9.00pm Top of the Box: 1985
with Matthew Kelly
11.00pm Role Models
12.55am Super Casino
3.10am The Yorkshire Vet
4.00am Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am The Great Artists
5.35am Wildlife SOS
6.00am Peppa Pig
6.05am Olly the Little White Van



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Monday May 21st

TOP TV

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

BBC 1

12.38pm
Bargain Hunt

9.15am Ill Gotten Gains
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Neighbourhood Blues
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
12.38pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm The Doctor Blake Mysteries
3.15pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
4.30pm Hardball
5.15pm Pointless

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
8.00pm Panorama
8.30pm EastEnders
9.00pm Peter Kay's Car Share
9.30pm Peter Kay's Car Share
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Have I Got a Bit More
News for You
11.30pm The Graham Norton Show
12.15am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC 2

3.30pm
Victorian Farm

7.15am Royal Recipes
8.00am Gardeners' World
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live
11.30am The Week in Parliament

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Perfection
1.45pm Going Back Giving Back
2.30pm Digging for Britain
3.30pm Victorian Farm
4.30pm Street Auction
5.15pm Antiques Road Trip

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble
8.00pm Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2018
9.00pm Robbie's War: The Rise and Fall of a Playboy Billionaire
10.00pm QI
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Burma with Simon Reeve
12.15am Police Under Pressure
1.15am Countryfile
2.10am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

7.30pm
Coronation Street

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.30pm The NHS Heroes Awards
10.30pm ITV News
11.00pm ITV News London
11.15pm On Assignment
11.50pm Killer Women with Piers Morgan
12.45am Jackpot247
3.00am The Jeremy Kyle Show
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show
6.00am Good Morning Britain

Channel 4

8.00pm
Jamie's Quick
and Easy Food

7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
8.00am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.05am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen
Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Coast v Country
1.05pm Posh Pawn
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm The -£100k Drop
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Buy it Now

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
7.55pm The Political Slot
8.00pm Jamie's Quick and Easy Food
8.30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade
9.00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody
10.35pm Manchester
11.35pm Quadruplets and Homeless
12.35am The Secret Life of the Zoo
1.30am The Supervet
2.25am Myanmar's Killing Fields
3.20am Gok's Fill Your House for Free
4.15am Best Laid Plans

Channel 5

2.15pm
The Yorkshire
Vet Casebook

8.20am Floogals
8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm The Gadget Show
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook
3.15pm Murder, She Baked:
Just Desserts
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Aviva Premiership
Rugby Highlights
8.00pm Police Interceptors
9.00pm Paddington Station 24/7
10.00pm The Sex Business: Porn Stars
11.05pm Criminals Caught on Camera
12.05am America's Toughest Prisons
1.00am Super Casino

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Has the Government gone too far? Is it worthwhile being a landlord?

Bill Cooper, co-author of *The Oxford Property Blog* and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford



depend on good quality rented homes being available to them.

So, has the government gone too far?

That question is not straightforward to answer. Based purely on the economic argument, the figures above from Kent Reliance show that buy to let will continue to be viable financially. Evidence from Scotland (where a tenant fee ban has been in place for several years), suggests that the ban of tenant fees in England will increase costs for landlords initially, but thereafter rents will rise above their historic trend rate. If the supply of private rented homes is already reducing as Hamptons assert, then the rate of rent inflation could be even higher in England than that seen in Scotland.

Being a landlord is a business. Just as companies owe a duty of care to its employees, landlords owe a duty of care to their tenants. And, just as businesses budget their costs to optimise profits, so should landlords should budget a proportion of their gross income for reinvestment to maintain their assets.

Some changes being introduced by Government are both considered and necessary e.g.

the improvement of minimum standards in the areas of gas, electrical and fire safety, the licencing of houses in multiple occupation; tightening of mortgage assessment processes and level of rental to repayment cover to protect landlords as interest rates rise. However, other changes are pure politics, and seem certain to have unwanted consequences e.g. the ban of fees charged to tenants, and the stamp duty surcharge. Both of

these risk reducing the supply of private rented properties at a time when cities like Oxford already have a shortage.

As things stand: Has the Government gone too far? Yes. Is it still worthwhile being a landlord? Yes, provided you recognise that you are running a business and are prepared to devote the time to running that business properly.

For more commentary on Oxford property visit www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk

This question is at the heart of matter for landlords as taxation policy and general regulations are tightening in response to the growth in the number of UK citizens renting their homes from private landlords.

Since the financial crisis in 2008, buy to let has been seen as a low-risk alternative to savings or stock market investments. Oxford's landlords have done particularly well, benefitting from strong annual rent inflation and strong capital appreciation.

Data from Kent Reliance shows that over the course of a 25-year investment, a basic tax paying landlord, placing a typical 30% deposit of £73,908 on a property, will generate a total profit of

£265,500 after all costs and taxes taking into account the Government's changes

Once the impact of inflation over the period is factored-in, this represents a profit of £162,000 in today's money, or £6,475 annually.

If buy to let returns look set to continue being attractive, why are landlords leaving the market, selling their assets and investing elsewhere? According to Hamptons, the number of properties available for private rental has fallen by 5% over the last 2 years in the South of England that's 82,000 fewer rental homes. That at a time when demand for rented accommodation has never been higher, and when it is predicted that over 17million UK citizens will



The Little Welly Obstacle Course & Festival Hits Henley-on-Thames!

Bigger, better & muddier than ever before, the UK's biggest children's obstacle course - The Little Welly returns

to Greenlands in Henley-on-Thames on the weekend of June 9th & 10th.

Local estate agents Davis Tate are pleased to be supporting the event again this year with signage, advertising and local promotion and will be sponsoring the pod area on the day as well as having their own competitors taking part!

With 30 big obstacles over a 3km course, some of which are new, kids will have the time of their life as they run,

jump, climb, swing, slide and crawl through the wildly popular outdoor adventure series amongst the unspoilt &

rural surroundings of this beautiful estate.

This one of a kind experience has been designed for children aged four & over and parents and carers are welcome to join in all the fun whatever the weather, in fact the wetter, the muddier, the better as far as the children are concerned!

After scaling the towering heights of The Web Frame, conquering the looming Dark Crawl, splashing through the Mud & Water Pits, braving the NEW Spider Tunnel, fearlessly facing the Three Hump Dragon, giving it all for THE Wall, bouncing around in the Foam Pit and balancing on the Long Pole Run, (just a selection of some of the

obstacles!) every child can proudly collect their shiny medal and enjoy all the other fun activities on site.

The fantastic Festival Village has something for all the family to enjoy: Laser Tag, Zorbing, Helter Skelter,

Climbing Wall, Whacky Wheelers, pony rides, den building, football darts, toddler course & Bungee trampolining. The huge stage will host live music & entertainment throughout the whole weekend. Zoe's Waffles,

Time For Tea, Soleluna Pizzas, The Flying Bean Cafe, Vegan & Vegetarian Burgers from Freshbox, Lovibonds and the Prosecco Van will ensure nobody goes hungry or thirsty!

There is something for everyone! "My kids both absolutely loved yesterday at Henley-On-Thames, we all had an amazing time as a family, haven't

had that much fun in a long time - great for all the family young and old. when else can you encourage your kids to get stuck in and get completely covered in mud from head to toe?!"

A brilliant day out for all the family whatever the weather!

Child Course & Festival Ticket £19.50

Adult Assist Course & Festival Ticket £9.50

Festival Only Ticket £6.50
Free car admission

For more information & to book tickets online for individuals, groups, birthday parties please visit:

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The Little Welly
Obstacle Course & Festival

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WALLINGFORD A spacious single storey property in a semi-rural location. The house has been updated over the years and now has a generous 2500 sq ft of flexible accommodation. The large garden sweeps down to the River Thames where there is 42ft frontage with landing stage. EPC Rating D.
£1,150,000 Wallingford office 01491 833323



EWELME Grade II listed cottage with no onward chain and a wealth of character features and charm. There is a sizeable 1/4 acre plot and the South-West facing rear garden extends to 157ft in length. EPC Rating Exempt.
£695,000 Wallingford office 01491 833323



WALLINGFORD Located on a mature residential road this elevated 4 bedroomed family home comes with a wealth of space and 'L' shaped rear and side garden. EPC Rating C.

£430,000 Wallingford office 01491 833323



WALLINGFORD Well-presented semi-detached bungalow set just 0.7 miles from the market place. Recently redecorated throughout and is very well maintained. The property benefits from ample off street parking, a garage and a pretty garden to the rear. No chain. EPC Rating E.
£370,000 Wallingford office 01491 833323



WALLINGFORD For sale with no onward chain this 3 bedroom semi-detached home has sizeable accommodation and has great potential to extend and improve even further (STPP). EPC Rating C

£335,000 Wallingford office 01491 833323



DIDCOT A well presented two bedroom house in no-through road in the town centre. It is located within half a mile of Didcot Parkway Station and the new phase of The Orchard Centre. Offered to the market with a closed chain. EPC Rating E.

£250,000 Didcot office 01235 818371



ABINGDON-ON-THAMES Highly desirable town house in the sought after Old Foundry development. Modern fully fitted kitchen, living room, 4 double bedrooms, en-suite shower and family bathroom. Unfurnished. Available July. EPC Rating C.

£1,495 p.c.m + fees Abingdon office 01235 526907



HARWELL A well presented two bedroom semi detached house located in the beautiful village of Harwell. Access to the garage. There is ample driveway parking and a garage located to the side of the property. Offered unfurnished. Available 13th July. EPC Rating D.

£950 p.c.m + fees Didcot office 01235 818371



ABINGDON 2 bedroom apartment nestled in the heart of this historic market town. Entrance hall, open plan lounge/diner/kitchen, master bedroom with en-suite, further double bedroom, bathroom and parking. Unfurnished. Available July. EPC Rating B.

£950 p.c.m + fees Abingdon office 01235 526907



ABINGDON A 2 bed ground floor apartment in a quiet development in North Abingdon, the property has undergone refurbishments and has newly fitted carpets and re-decorated throughout. Unfurnished, Available Now. EPC Rating D

£875 p.c.m + fees Abingdon office 01235 526907

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Auto Weekly

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Volkswagen Take UP! 1.0 litre 60PS – 5 door

You'll want to Take UP! one of these

By **Tony Yates**

The VW UP! is a great little car for doing the school run and for all those times when you need to nip into town to do a little retail therapy. Or, if you're like me, then you will be the local taxi into town because it's the only family vehicle that's really capable of fitting inside those tight city centre parking spaces.

Power & efficiency

The version I had on test was a 5 door Take UP! which was fitted with a 3 cylinder 999cc 60PS petrol engine and is still one of the best units I have come across in my opinion. Yes, I know pretty much every manufacturer now has a 3 cylinder engine available in their range, but I still think the VW unit is the better one by a mile.

Out on the open road I managed to achieve 60mpg as long as I didn't drive it like I stole it. Of course, I could tell you that the UP! will max out at 101mph, but to be honest, it wasn't built

for speed, so you are probably not that interested. But, if you do fancy a race from 0-62, then expect to be waiting around for about 14.4sec for that to happen.

So, with its 999cc engine, you'd expect it to be slow right? Well, actually it nips around the city in a rush and it doesn't really feel underpowered at all truth be told. Plus I recently had to take my children on a weekend camping trip to Ross-on-Wye (why the sun was finally out) meaning it was full to bursting with all our camping gear, but still – the little UP! just kept on going.

On the road

The little UP! is a scream – it's easy to drive and feels brilliant for such a small car. I own a Fiat 500 and I have to say that the little UP! is as good as the little Fiat – if not that little bit better out on the road, because it's less 'bouncy'. Remember though, this is not a hot hatch; it's an eco-warrior that was designed to save you money as well



as being stylish. As for the handling, I decided I would give it four out of five stars because it's as good as the competition when the road gets nice and twisty.

Design & technology

The interior is a little on the bland side – but it's functional, and I like

the body coloured dash panel and the centre speedo which gives it a better feel on the inside. Although the seats do feel a little deckchair like, then again, they do hold you firm and that's the main thing here.

There's also an array of kit inside such as; DAB radio, electric front windows, 3.1" monochrome screen, SD card reader, halogen clear head-

lights, LED daytime running lights, power assisted steering, remote central locking, height adjustable three-spoke steering wheel. This list may look a little basic, but remember this was only the Take-UP! specification. If you want to go all out, then I suggest you take a look at the new UP! GTi version which costs less than 14k (3 door version)

When it comes to safety features, the UP! comes equipped with; ABS (Anti-lock Braking System), driver's and front passenger's airbags, side head/thorax airbag system for front passengers, ESC (Electronic Stability Control) including Hill Hold function.

To sum up

There is no doubt in my mind that VW UP! will live with you for a very long time and you will instantly replace it with another when the time is right. To be honest it's like your secret little friend that will make you feel happy every time you turn the key.

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2017-66	FORD KA+ 1.2 ZETEC	Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 8160 Miles	£8,995
2014-64	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.4 T EXCLUSIV	Brown, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 7 Seats, 34500 Miles	£8,995
2013-13	FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X ESTATE	Green, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 61450 Miles	WAS £8,995 NOW £8,495
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2011-11	SKODA FABIA 1.2 TSI ELEGANCE AUTO	Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 53900 Miles	£5,495
2015-15	TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 X-PLAY	Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, 33200 Miles	£6,295
2012-62	TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 TR	Turquoise, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Reverse Camera, 51500 Miles	£5,295
2009-58	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC	grey, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, alloys, 51022 miles	£4,495
2012-62	CIROEN C1 1.0 VTR	White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 25800 Miles	£4,695
2012-12	CITROEN C1 1.0 VTR+	SILVER, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, 20700 Miles	£4,295
2008-57	NISSAN NOTE 1.5 DCI ACENTA	Silver, 5 Dr, pAS, AC, Alloys, 25900 Miles	£3,495
2007-57	HONDA CIVIC 2.2 CTDI EX	Grey, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, Alloys, 89200 Miles	£3,495
2009-09	HYUNDAI I10 1.2 COMFORT AUTO	Black, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, 59900 Miles	£3,295

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Models shown: MG GS Exclusive with metallic paint in Spiced Orange at £20,090 on the road (OTR) or from £219 a month based on a 60 month Conditional Sale agreement with a MG Deposit Contribution of £2,000 and a customer deposit of £4,950. MG3 3Style+ with Combination Paint option in Ruby Red with White Roof at £12,190.00 on the road (OTR) or from £159 a month based on a 60 month conditional sale agreement with a customer deposit of £2,650. Monthly 'from price' based on MG3 3Form at £10,195 on the road (OTR) or from £135 a month based on a 60 month Conditional Sale agreement with a £2,095 customer deposit.

†OTR prices of £8,695 applies to the MG3 3Time (not available on the 0% APR Conditional Sale offer), with no optional extras and £15,095 applies to the MG GS Explore with no optional extras. OTR prices include VAT where applicable, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and 12 months 'Vehicle Excise Duty'. Fuel consumption values shown are based on official EU test figures and are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not be representative of actual driving results. Offer terms and conditions apply.

*0% APR: Conditional sale. 0% APR available on all MG3 models (excluding MG3 3Time) and all MG GS models until 31.03.2018. A minimum deposit of 20% of the cash OTR price applies on all models. Finance by MG Financial Services, CF15 7YT, subject to status, availability and terms and conditions. Applicants must be aged 18 or over. Please see your local dealer for details.

** 5 year warranty available on both models. MG3 warranty for 5 year/60,000 miles (whichever occurs first) and MG GS warranty for 5 year/80,000 miles (whichever occurs first) from date of first registration.

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- 17 66 MG3 STYLE SDR MANUAL, yellow with black roof, rear parking sensors, a/c, dab radio/cd, diamond cut alloys, ex demo, 5k£8,995
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- 17 66 MG3 STYLE 1.5 SDR, Yellow with black roof. Alloys, Aircon, DAB radio, rear parking sensors. FSH, 15k£7,995
- 14 64 PEUGEOT 208 1.2 VTI ACTIVE SDR MANUAL, met grey, a/c, alloys, bluetooth, remote locking, 1 owner, 35k, s/h£6,695
- 11 61 MINI 1.6 COOPER DIESEL 3DR, white with black half leather, alloys, DAB, climate, cruise, fsh, 65k£6,795
- 10 60 HYUNDAI I20 1.4 STYLE CRDI SDR, met grey with half leather, alloys, climate control, e/folding mirrors, e/windows, parking sensors, radio/cd, FSH, ONLY 21K MILES£5,495

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- 14 64 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 2.0 ELITE CDTI SDR, met brown with heated leather seats, alloys, DAB radio, 1 owner, FSH, 18k£11,995
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- 14 14 FORD C-MAX 1.6 ZETEC PETROL SDR, met blue, alloys, a/c, e/windows and mirrors, radio/cd, fsh, 20k£8,995

4X4

- 13 63 HONDA CR-V 2.0 I-VTEC SR PETROL SDR, met blue with half leather, alloys, alarm, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, e/windows, e/folding mirrors, Reverse camera, parking sensors, Xenon Lights, FSH, 23K£14,795
- 12 12 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 KX-3 PETROL SDR, Black with half leather seats, alloys, auto lights, bluetooth, cruise control, e/mirrors, e/windows, radio/cd, roof rails, panoramic roof, FSH, 57K£11,495

- 11 11 HYUNDAI IX35 2.0 CRDI PREMIUM 4WD AUTO SDR, met grey with half leather seats, alloys, auto lights & wipers, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, heated seats, raer sensors, radio/cd, FSH, 76K£9,495
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- 17 67 MG GS 1.5T EXCLUSIVE AUTO SDR, met silver with full black leather, alloys, climate & cruise control, Heated seats, Sat Nav, 1 owner, FSH, 14K£17,495
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- 14 14 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI ULTRA BLACK EDITION 4DR SALOON S-TRONIC, met silver, alloys, e/windows and mirrors, 77k, fsh£16,495
- 12 61 KIA SOUL 2 1.6 CRDI AUTO SDR, met silver, alloys, aircon, bluetooth, e/ folding mirrors, e/windows, radio/cd, SH, 21K£6,795
- 13 13 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 ELITE CDTI SDR AUTO, met grey with full black leather, heated seats, FSH, 70k£ 6,295
- 11 60 NISSAN NOTE 1.6 ACENTA AUTO SDR, mt silver, alloys, aircon, cruise control, e/mirrors, e/windows, radio/cd, remote locking, SH, 70k£5,695
- 06 06 MINI COOPERS CHECKMATE 3DR AUTO, met blue/grey with grey/blue half leather, alloys, SH, only 46k£4,695

Others

- 04 53 MERCEDES CL 316 2.7 CDI TD CIPRO MANUAL CAMPER, 4 Berth, basin, double oven, garage, pull out awning, shower, Sat Nav, 50K£19,995
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- 13 63 AUDI A3 SPORTBACK 2.0 TDI S-LINE SDR MANUAL DIESEL, met black with half leather seats, alloys, climate control, DAB radio, e/mirrors & windows, privacy glass, 1 owner, FSH, 39K£14,995
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- 14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 VISIA PETROL SDR, met black, alloys, aircon, e/ mirrors & windows, isofix, rear sensors, FSH, 20K£8,495
- 15 65 KIA Venga 1.4 1 ISG PETROL SDR, Red, e/mirrors & e/windows, radio/cd, remote locking, FSH, 24K£7,995
- 12 62 KIA CEED 1.4 CRDI 1 SDR MANUAL DIESEL, white, air con, bluetooth, e/ mirrors & windows, Isofix, Radio/cd, 1 owner, 56K, SH£6,495
- 12 12 SEAT LEON 1.6 CR TDI ECOMOTIVE SE COPA SDR white with heated leather seats, alloys, auto lights, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, DAB radio, E/mirrors & windows, rear parking sensors, Sat Nav, FSH, ZERO ROAD TAX, 72K£6,495
- 09 58 AUDI A3 1.4 TFSI SE SDR MANUAL, met grey, a/c, alloys, front fogs, e/ windows and mirrors, FSH, 70k£5,995
- 1978 MG MIDGET 1500 PETROL MANUAL, orange, well looked after example with lot's of invoices, 56k£4,995
- 07 07 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE SDR, met silver, alloys, aircon, e/mirrors, front e/ windows, panoramic roof, radio/cd, remote locking, SH, 61K£3,295

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V40 T3 R-Design Manual		£749	£Nil
V40 T3 R-Design Automatic		£1,399	£699
V40 D2 R-Design Nav Plus Automatic		£2,999	£2,299
V40 Cross Country T3 Pro Automatic	£250 Cashback	£299	£Nil
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V40 Cross Country D2 Pro Manual		£1,599	£899

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Fuel consumption figures for the Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 39.2mpg (7.2L/100km), Extra Urban 55.4mpg (5.1L/100km), Combined 47.9mpg (5.9L/100km). CO₂ emissions: 133g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC Manual in White Orchid Pearl at £17,780 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC petrol ordered from 01 April 2018 to 30 June 2018 and registered by 30 June 2018. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. *Honda deposit contribution: £1,000 Honda deposit contribution on new Jazz models purchased through Honda Aspirations. 5.9% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Honda Franchise Dealers are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Financial Services is a trading name of Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL a company registered at Companies House No. 03289418. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. 5 Years' £599 servicing: Please visit <http://www.honda.co.uk/cars/offers.html>. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766. VAT Registration No. GB927551606.



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AGENDA

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17:00 - Open day finishes

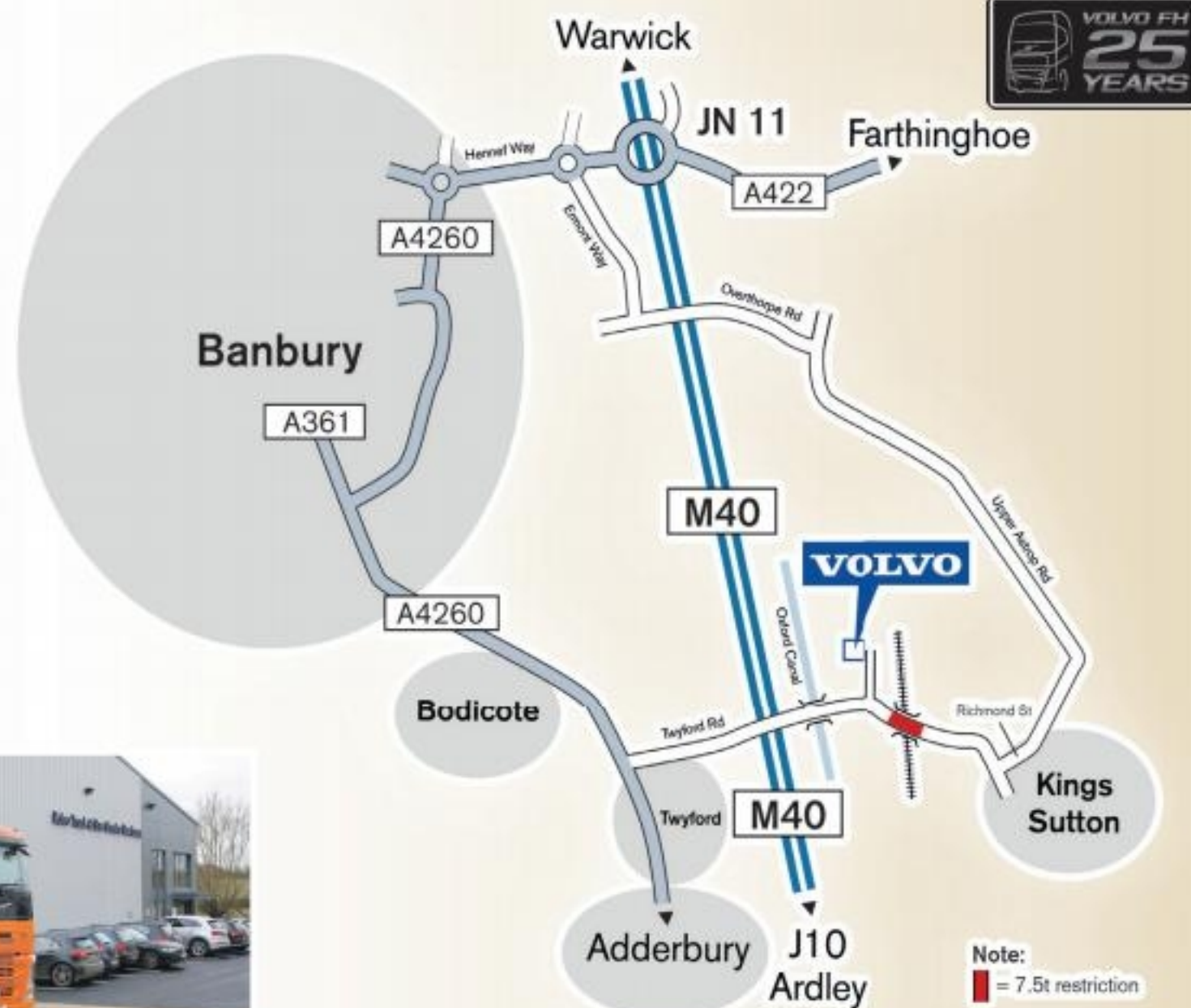
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Located at Twyford Wharf, Banbury, the new Volvo Banbury offers a full range of Dealerpoint services, in addition to new and used Volvo Truck sales.

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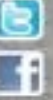
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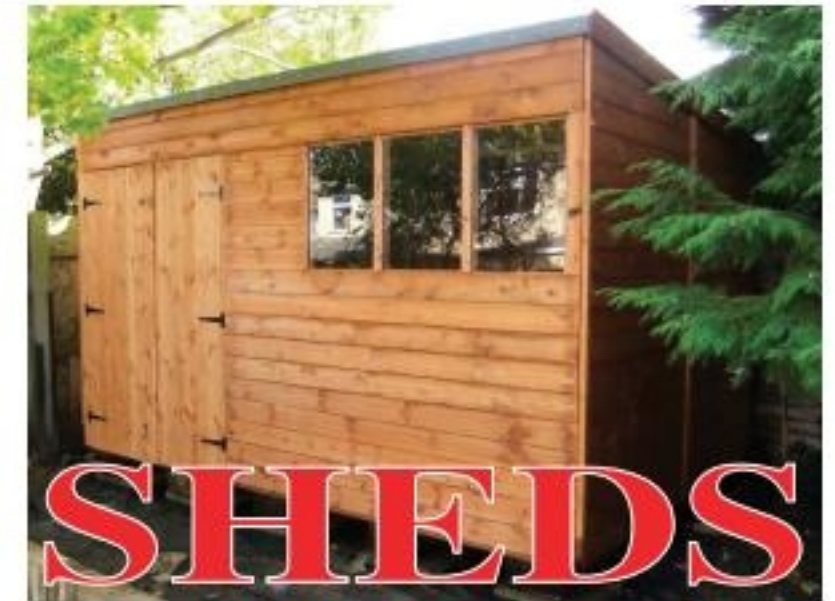
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Grosjean's misery continues

By George Welch

F1 - Haas

ROMAIN Grosjean has been handed a three-place grid penalty for triggering an opening-lap crash which took him and two other drivers out of the Spanish GP.

The Haas driver lost his car mid-pack at turn three, spun back across the track in a cloud of tyre smoke and collected the cars of Renault's Nico Hulkenberg and Toro Rosso's Pierre Gasly.

All walked away from the accident unharmed, but each saw their race end before it ever really began, as Grosjean, who qualified in the top-10, was credited with an 18th-place finish.

The Barcelona stewards deemed Grosjean made the wrong decision to try and correct his spin on track and handed him the three-place grid demotion for the race in Monaco later this month.

The Frenchman has struggled so far this Formula 1 season for the Banbury prepared side and is one of two drivers without a point.

A dejected Grosjean said afterwards: "There's not much to say. I lost the rear end in turn three and I just spun. If you look at the footage, I had wanted to avoid contact with my



Pointless: Romain Grosjean qualified in the top-10 in Barcelona but ended the race pointless...again
Picture: Haas F1

team-mate.

"Kevin [Magnussen] had a bit of a wobble, I lifted off the throttle, and then the car just went.

"I'm sorry for the others that were involved – there wasn't much I could do once the car went."

He added: "I had wanted a steady race, but that wasn't today."

Team-mate Magnussen is 'showing

up' Grosjean, according to former Renault driver Jolyon Palmer.

The Dane fared much better in Barcelona, taking his car home in sixth behind the top-five of Mercedes, Ferrari and Red Bull.

He said: "I had a really good start. I was alongside the Red Bulls, but I didn't really want to fight them as I knew they were much faster.

"My job was to stay in seventh and settle down from there.

"I was able to defend well, keep out of trouble on the first lap, so I was happy."

World champion and Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton claimed victory in Spain.

Round six of the season is the Monaco GP on May 27.

Eighth defeat in nine for U's

OUFC women

THE season end cannot come quick enough for Oxford United Women after losing their eighth game in nine with a 2-1 defeat at home to basement club Watford Ladies.

To compound United's misery, the away side's win was their first of the season.

Yet struggling Oxford started well, taking the lead at Court Place Farm after 15 minutes.

The breakthrough in United's final home game of the season came when Ellie Noble's fierce strike cannoned off the crossbar before hitting the Hornets' goalkeeper and crossing the line.

But that was as good as it got for Oxford, who were pegged back just two minutes later, the experienced Helen Ward beating Demi Lambourne with a well-placed effort from just outside the box.

The chances came thick and fast in the second half and it was Watford who got the all-important goal just after the hour mark.

Simona Petkova converted a Ward cross from the right for the winner.

United had their chances to snatch a point – Chloe Chivers and Georgia Timms both went close – but the Watford players put their bodies on the line to secure their first win of the season.

Oxford end their WSL2 season at champions Doncaster Rovers Belles on Sunday.

Pain in Spain for Sirotkin after rear end trouble

F1 - Williams/Renault

SERGEY Sirotkin found his Williams Formula 1 car's seat so uncomfortable he struggled to make it to the chequered flag of the Spanish GP.

The Russian started from 19th on the grid after being hit by a three-place penalty carried over from Baku.

He threaded his way through the wreckage of Romain Grosjean's opening-lap shunt when he became uncomfortable.

"It's been a very tough day," he said.

"I had a good start and I was right in the mix before I almost got caught by a couple of spins ahead of me.

"Then I started to struggle with... let's say it this way to not upset anyone – the problem is with seat comfort.

"It was really massive. I was really struggling with the – you know, just staying in the car."

Sirotkin finished last – 14th after all the retirements – for Grove-based Williams while team-mate Lance



Ouch: Sergey Sirotkin was in pain after an uncomfortable ride in Barcelona
Pictures: Williams Martini Racing

Stroll just missed out on the points in 11th.

Meanwhile, Nico Hulkenberg's race was over almost as quick as it began as the Renault driver was wiped out

in the carnage of the first lap pile up.

But Carlos Sainz was in the points for the Enstone prepared side, the Spaniard keeping the home fans happy with a seventh place finish.



Whitehead to hang up boots

Football

FORMER Oxford United midfielder Dean Whitehead will retire this summer.

The Abingdon-born star played more than 100 games for the U's between 1999 and 2004, before joining Sunderland.

Now at Huddersfield, who secured their Premier League status this season by four points, Whitehead will become part of David Wagner's backroom team before taking charge of their Under-17 side in January.

The 36-year-old has played more than 600 matches for five professional clubs including Stoke City and Middlesbrough.

The former Sunderland skipper, who played for Abingdon Town as a youngster, came on for the last three minutes in the Terriers' 1-0 defeat to Arsenal on Sunday.

Announcing his decision on Twitter before the season finale, he said: "The day has come that I always feared. After the Arsenal game I will be hanging up my boots.

"I have played at some fantastic clubs over my career and am proud of all my achievements."

He added: "New challenges lay ahead and I'm excited for the next chapter in my career.

"Thanks to everyone who believed in me and most importantly the fans, who have been with me through the highs and lows of my career."

Impressive final round shoots Eddie up leaderboard

Golf

EDDIE Pepperell heads into the PGA Championship later this month in confident mood after finishing tied 14th at the Rocco Forte Open in Sicily.

The Abingdon golfer carded a fantastic five-under par final round to finish eight-under in Verdura.

The Frilford Heath member got off to an inauspicious start with a one-over par 72 in the first round.

Pepperell improved over the following couple of days to score successive rounds of two-under par and lift him to 28th place.

And the 27-year-old flew further up the leaderboard following his memorable final day.

It did not start well for Pepperell, dropping a shot at the par-five second, but he was only heading in one direction afterwards.

Birdies at the third, fourth, eighth and ninth followed as he moved to six-

under. He picked up further shots at the 10th and 12th on his way to one of the lowest rounds of the day and his second top-20 finish of the year.

Sweden's Joakim Lagergren edged victory after beating Frenchman Mike Lorenzo-Vera in a play-off.

Pepperell is not in action at this week's Belgian Knockout in Antwerp but his impressive latest performance in Sicily is timely ahead of the esteemed PGA Championship at Wentworth on May 24.



Promising: Eddie Pepperell hit five-under in his final round

Sport

Oxford United 2017/18 season: August – December

Early potential for experimental side as Pep settles in

THE deadwood has been given the boot and the pre-season fixtures have been pencilled in the diary.

And that's just as well for Oxford United fans, who will be in a rush to put the 2017/18 season at the back of their minds.

Following a summer of disruption, the inexperienced Pep Clotet was charged with steadying the ship of a side who had lost the popular Michael Appleton from the hotseat as well as a handful of star players.

The plan was to build on the success of the previous year which included a play-off charge following promotion. But nothing's that simple.

Between August and May, the U's teased their fans as they flirted with the play-offs before dragging them into a relegation battle and a laughable 59-day managerial hunt.

There was no cup run of previous years, but there was at least a positive start, a takeover and saviour Karl Robinson rescued them from the drop.

Here, George Welch starts a review of the season with a look back at 2017



September – Rough patch: Erhun Oztumer, known as the Turkish Messi, gives Walsall the lead on the way to the West Midlands' 2-1 win at the Kassam. It is the middle game in three match losing streak for Oxford



October – Turning point: Curtis Nelson stabs home United's third and final goal in the draw with Rotherham United. United scoop eight points from five matches to move within a couple of points of the play-offs.

August

OXFORD had impressed under Michael Appleton the previous year, with many players catching the eyes of teams higher up the league ladder.

Skipper John Lundstram (Sheffield United), influential winger Marvin Johnson (Middlesbrough), towering defender Chey Dunkley (Wigan Athletic) and 2016/17 top scorer Chris Maguire (Bury) all moved on.

This gave Clotet a mini rebuilding job so, utilising his European contacts, in came a cohort of 'Pep Clotet' players that represented relics and memories of the Spaniard's coaching career.

In came the Malmo class of 2010, consisting Ricardinho, Ivo Pekalski and Agon Mehmeti, while Xemi, Dwight Tiendalli and Gino van Kessel swelled the overseas contingent.

Jon Obika, Mike Williamson, Scott Shearer, John Mousinho and James Henry were added to the Oxford ranks and Jack Payne and Alex Mowatt joined on loan.

The uninspiring recruitment record contributed to the former Swansea City and Leeds United assistant's departure in the new year.

However, the Pep era got off to the perfect start with the club's first ever victory at Oldham Athletic in the opening game of the season.

Wes Thomas netted a debut goal that day and the striker was on target again in the 3-0 dismantling of Portsmouth in the first league game, sending the U's top of the table.

Defeat at Scunthorpe United and a draw at Shrewsbury Town weren't the end of the world, especially given they both made the play-offs.

Seventh in League One at the end of August, United kicked off their Checkatrade Trophy with an emphatic 6-2 victory at Stevenage as youngster Shandon Baptiste made his senior debut.

The Carabao Cup campaign was short-lived however, losing 4-3 at home to League Two's Cheltenham Town in extra time.



August – Introduction: Gino van Kessel scores a debut goal in the 3-0 home win against Portsmouth. Oxford United go top of the table after two games



November – Too little, too late: Jack Payne pulls a goal back for United against Blackburn Rovers. 3-0 down after 22 minutes, the U's lose 4-2. Pressure on Pep Clotet mounts

September

THE first rough patch of the campaign came in the second month of the season with three successive defeats.

A 3-0 crushing of Gillingham sandwiched by draws with Milton Keynes Dons (A) and Bradford City (A) meant the Yellows started September brightly and on the tail of the early-season pacesetters.

There was some breathtaking football at this point.

But United proved fragile as they lost against Blackpool (A), Walsall (H) and Bury (A) in quick succession to plummet down the table.

The inconsistent performances of Clotet's side were epitomised by the 4-1 win at Peterborough United that followed.

A goal down at half time, a rejuvenated Oxford bounced back in the second half to blow their hosts away. Agon Mehmeti netted the final goal – and his only goal for the club – in what was one of the small number of highlights under Clotet.

October

THE Posh turnaround seemed a turning point.

Back-to-back league wins followed against AFC Wimbledon (H) and rivals Bristol Rovers (A) before respectable points were collected in home games against Karl Robinson's Charlton Athletic and Rotherham United, both finishing the campaign in the top-six.

Two goals in the final couple of minutes saw United lose 2-0 at Fleetwood Town at the end of the month, preventing an unbeaten October – and probably a manager of the month nomination for Clotet.

Oxford also drew 2-2 with Brighton and Hove Albion's academy side in the Checkatrade Trophy at the start of the month, picking up a point after losing on penalties.

Setbacks were expected but, while United were two points off the play-offs heading into November, the best performances came before Halloween.



All pictures: Steve Daniels

Youngster Owen James signed a professional contract while fellow local lad Josh Ruffels signed a new three-year deal.

Thai businessman Sumrith Thanakarnjanasuth, who would complete his takeover of the club in January, was once again spotted at the Kassam.

November

2016's penultimate month began with the return of the excitement of the FA Cup, a competition in which United had thrived – and benefitted financially from – in the previous two seasons.

But, while city rivals Oxford City made history in the world famous cup competition, United crashed and burned to lowly opposition at the very first hurdle.

A lethargic United, who reached the fifth round last season, failed to register a shot on target as they limped to a 2-0 first round loss at League Two Port Vale.

It was little consolation that they qualified for the knockout stages of the Checktrade Trophy four days later, despite a 4-3 home defeat to MK Dons.

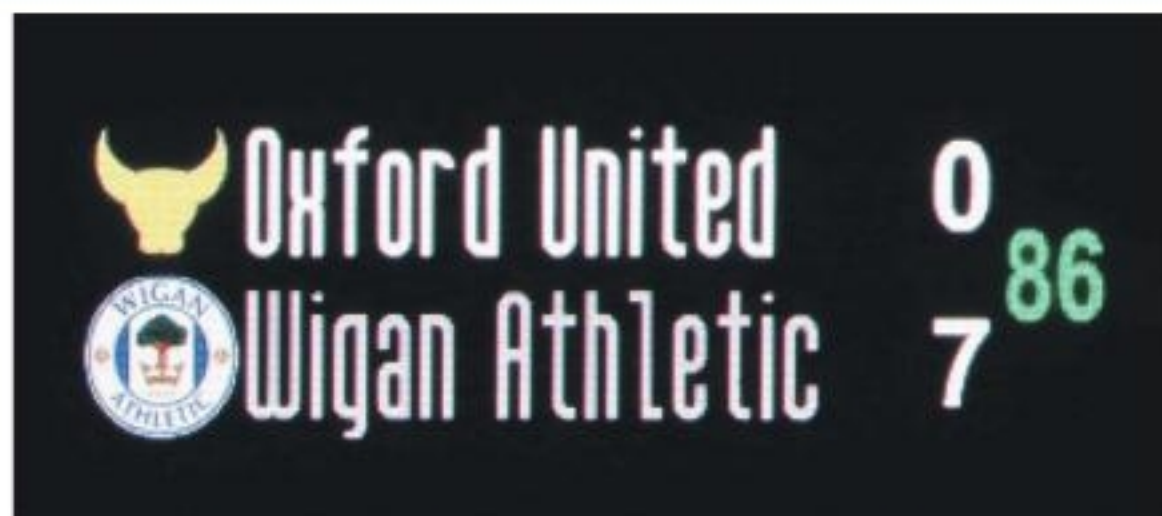
Clotet called on his players to reignite their early-season performances to end his side's losing habit after a 2-1 defeat at home to in-form Northampton Town – a fourth successive defeat in all competitions.

Form heading into the winter was patchy, but not disastrous.

A 4-0 win at 10-man Plymouth calmed the nerves before they found themselves 3-0 down in 22 minutes against Blackburn Rovers (H).

They lost 4-2 that day and, while the month was rounded off with a 1-1 draw at Southend United, the exciting football of the opening weeks was steadily fading away.

In the treatment room, captain Curtis Nelson, stretchered off against Northampton Town, was ruled out for the season with an Achilles injury. The defender returned in some



December – Boo! Oxford fans head for the exits after Wigan Athletic's fourth goal – after just 52 minutes. The 7-0 drubbing is United's worst home defeat

huge games towards the end of the season and the club certainly missed the influential leader in between.

Fellow defender Christian Ribeiro wasn't as lucky however after a knee problem forced the right back to hang up his boots aged just 27.

December

THE festive month began with a win, albeit in the Checktrade Trophy, but serious questions were now being asked of Clotet's ability to get his ideas across to his team which, at best, could be described as inconsistent.

United ground out four points against Doncaster Rovers (H) and Rochdale (A) before they blindly walked into a crushing defeat at the hands of Wigan Athletic.

The 7-0 loss was the turning point of the season – a very unwelcome Christmas gift just two days before the festivities.

Losing so heavily at home is bad enough but it was also the manner of the record-breaking defeat that irked U's fans.

The Latics were sublime but the hosts were complicit in a game in which the manager started Xemi, who later had his contract terminated, but left star players Ryan Ledson and Joe Rothwell on the bench.

A lack of a damage-limiting plan B was exacerbated when Clotet bizarrely defended his players in his post-match interview.

A draw and a defeat at Gillingham and Bradford City respectively between Christmas and New Year did little to boost confidence as Clotet sleepwalked into 2018 on thin ice.

With no Christmas miracle, Oxford slumped and finished 2017 in 12th place, nine points off the play-offs. They were a place lower but seven points off the top-six at the same stage the previous year.



On thin ice: Pep Clotet struggled to keep up the early season promise

Next week – twists and turns as United's season played out in 2018



Pastures new: The departing Lee Henderson and Freddie Grant lead celebrations after City's win over League Two Colchester United **Picture:** Michael Allen

Budget cuts force changes for City

OXFORD City boss Mark Jones has already started making changes to his squad after being handed a reduced budget for the next campaign.

The dust has barely settled on the 2017/18 season but skipper Lee Henderson and the influential Godfrey Poku are among those whose futures lie elsewhere.

Freddie Grant, Ezra Forde, Mamadou Fofana and Justin Bennett have also been released from the National League South club.

Craig King, Eddie Jones, Udoka Godwin Malife, Reece Fleet, Zac McEachran, Connor Stevens and top scorer Matt Paterson have been offered fresh terms.

Joe Oastler and Rob Sinclair will remain with the club having signed two-year deals when they joined the Hoops last summer.

Jones admitted making the decision to cut players for next year was 'extremely tough'.

The manager, who steered City to safety as well as a history-making FA Cup run, made Henderson his captain when he was promoted as manager.

However, like Bennett, injuries scuppered their campaigns and the club felt they could not offer them longer deals.

Similarly, Fofana and Ezra were only peripheral figures and have been cut from the wage bill.

Grant said he needed a new challenge and was reluctant to commit to the club.

City's midfield mountain Poku is based in London and looks set to sign for a team in the capital.

Speaking shortly after announcing the departures, Jones said: "I'd like to sincerely thank all of the players that have left the club."

"It's never easy to say goodbye to people that you have worked closely with and that have contributed so well to the team over a period of time."

He added: "I do also have to make savings, working with a reduced budget next season and need to build a balanced squad, so difficult decisions have to be made. These decisions aren't easy ones, but as always I try to make them with the best interest of the club and team at heart."

League's sticky situation

DIDCOT Town have launched an appeal after the FA 'made a mistake' and placed them in the 'wrong' division.

Following a major restructuring of steps three and four of the non-league system, the Railwaymen have been placed in the Evo-Stik South West division, the league in which they finished in the play-offs in the season just gone.

As part of the overhaul, fellow Oxfordshire sides Kidlington and North Leigh have been shifted to the East division to join Thame United.

However, much to Diddy's frustration, they have been left behind while Gloucestershire-based Cinderford Town remain in the East division.

A statement from Didcot Town read: "After the announcement of the 2018/19 league constitution, we can confirm that Didcot Town FC have appealed the decision to remain in the West division."

"After reviewing the league setup for next season, it's clear that ourselves and Cinderford have been placed in the wrong leagues and the easy resolution is to swap both clubs which would reduce significant mileage for the two clubs."



You must be having a laugh?! Fans mock next season's league allocation

"The FA have confirmed receipt of the appeal and we await to hear their response."

Cinderford have not officially commented but poked fun at the FA's decision by retweeting comments on Twitter.

Meanwhile, Banbury United will play in the south section of the new-look Premier Division.

The structure of the Hellenic Premier League, step five, has not been confirmed.

The ninth tier of English football includes Wantage Town, Abingdon United, Oxford City Nomads and, for next season, Ardley United.



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More sport inside: Football: United season in review, August - December | F1: Grosjean struggles for Haas | Golf: Progress for Pepperell after Sicily



Ox-Rail test to explore possible safe standing

By George Welch

OXFORD United are looking into the possibility of introducing safe standing at the Kassam Stadium.

The League One club has been investigating whether they can install a safety rail in sections of the East (home) and North (away) stands.

United said that, while there is no timescale on the scheme at the moment, their 'Ox-Rail' would be a 'ground-breaking concept'.

The sections would remain as seated areas but the introduction of an additional safety control measure would prevent the risk of a progressive crowd collapse by supporters who have chosen to persistently stand.

The club said an 'overwhelming

majority' of the Oxford United Safety Advisory Group members, including representatives of the emergency services, supported the scheme.

Ian Mixer, head of crowd safety at the U's, said: "Although a time frame cannot be placed on completion of the project, the next stage will see the installation of a test build of an Ox-Rail, in front of a single row of seats in the East Stand, to allow the safety barrier to undergo rigorous testing."

"The safety of spectators, both home and away, is paramount and the club is committed to ensuring that this groundbreaking concept complies with the safety standards required by the regulating authorities."

There will be consultation with supporters, including OxVox and season

ticket holders, to ensure that Ox-Rail is safe enough when installed.

Discussions are also ongoing with the Sports Ground Safety Authority to allow the concept to continue within the stadium should the club be promoted to the Championship.

Managing director Niall McWilliams added: "We would love to see Ox-Rails at the stadium and will continue to work with all relevant parties to try and make this happen."

More than 110,000 people signed a petition earlier this year asking for Premier League and Championship clubs to be allowed to have safe standing at their stadia.

Sports minister Tracey Crouch said football fans 'have evolved' since all-seater stadia were introduced, when she was quizzed by MPs on safe-

standing earlier this month.

■ Oxford United will be heading to Ireland for their pre-season tour, which will include intensive training and three matches.

The dates for the diary are: Monday, July 9 - Portmarnock AFC; Tuesday, July 10 - Longford Town; Wednesday, July 11 - UCD

Oxford United's pre-season continues to take shape with the announcement of a 'double-header' on Saturday, July 14.

The U's will play two games that day - the day before the World Cup final - playing away at neighbours Oxford City and then away at Hampton and Richmond Borough the same afternoon. The first team will be split in two.

New training site shaping up for next season

WORK is well under way as Oxford United's new training complex takes shape.

United formally moved out of their previous training base at the Oxford Sports and Social Club last week.

Equipment has been moved out of the buildings and into storage for the summer as the club prepares to move a few hundred yards further along Horspath Road to a £4.9million sports park.

The bulldozers moved in to flatten the old site and prepare it for an expansion of the BMW MINI factory last week.

When the first team report back next month they will do so where a fantastic new training complex is taking shape.

It will feature six pitches plus a 3G pitch and will be home to the first team, youth team, Under-23 side and academy programme.

Alongside the pitches will be new changing rooms, a gym, kitchens, dining room, laundry and storage facilities as well as offices and video analysis suites.

The scholars will have new, larger classrooms, there will be treatment rooms, interview rooms for the media, meeting rooms and storage facilities for the maintenance crew.

Eastwood: new deal

THE U's confirmed goalkeeper Simon Eastwood had extended his contract.

The shot stopper had been linked with a move to the Championship after an impressive two years at the Kassam.

But the 28-year-old has now quashed those rumours by signing a new three-year deal.

Boss Karl Robinson described the former Blackburn Rovers man as the 'best goalkeeper in the league'.

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